MR. ERNEST H. G. COX.
"The New Clown" Co.,
This, T. R., Colchester; next, T. R., Leamington.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE,
Sir Gavin Macalister, "The Garden of Lies."
March 27, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

MR. ALEC CRICHTON,
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Compton Comedy Co., en route.

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MR. JOHN CYLDE, Lead and Special Parts. Disengaged now and Summer.
Address, 11, Carnarvon-street, Glasgow.

MR. F. DANVERS-YATES,
Stage-Manager, "The Duke of Killicrankie" Co. March 27, Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES
Disengaged next Christmas.
March 27, Theatre Royal, Goole.

MR. PERCY DAVISON,
"A Country Girl" Co. (S.)
Dewsbury; next, Doncaster.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Disengaged.
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MR. JOHN W. DEVERELL.
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MR. HERBERT DICKESON, A.A.,
Mr. Geo. Dance's "Veronique" Co.
At Lib. Shortly. Mar. 27, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MR. AMBROSE V. DIXON,
at Liberty, Juvenile Lead, Light Comedy.
17, Boxwell-road, Berkhamsted, Herts.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MARY AINSLIE, Dr. Colbrooke and Fay, "Life's Sweetest Sins" Co. Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

MR. KAY DRACO,
Business Manager, Geo. Dance's No. 1 "Veronique" Co. March 27, T. R., Bradford.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business Man., Charles Macdona's "Three Little Maids" N. Co. Broadway T., New Cross, S.E.

MR. and MRS. T. W. DUNSCOMBE
(Miss Marie Tennant), M. T., Disengaged.
March 27, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

MR. CHARLES A. EAST,
Lead, Heavies, Character, or S.-M. Disengaged for Easter week. 17, Adie-rd., Hammersmith.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
(Miss Bella Power). "The Cotton Spinner."
At Lib. May 6. Tour or Stock. G., Manchester.

MR. JAMES ENGLISH, Character and Old Men. Vacant April 3. Termination of "Peter Pan," Duke of York's Theatre, W.C.

MR. CHARLES ESDALE,
Disengaged.
27, Montague-place, W.C.

MR. ROBERT FAIRBANKS,
Baron Chanterelle, C. P. Leviliy's "La Poupée" Co., 27, H. M. T., Aberdeen.

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MR. ANTHONY FAWCETT,
Address,
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MR. EDWARD FENTON,
Lieut. Pelham, "A Soldier and a Man."
March 27, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
En Route, "The King's Hat" Co. Address, Tivoli, Leeds.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance Director, Geo. Musgrove's "Prince of Pilsen" Co. Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MR. G. D. FOX,
Conductor, Composer, and Arranger.
134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE,
Disengaged in June.
Address, 77, Hardshaw-st., St. Helens.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD FULTON
(Miss Gertrude Evans), Lazare and Adrienne, in "Proof." Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
as Ellis Jordan, "A Wife's Triumph" Co.
Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
Lead, "The Sledge-Hammer."
Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

MR. HENRY GEORGE,
as Capulet, in "Romeo and Juliet."
Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. JOHN GERANT,
Principal Comedy, "Hearts Adrift,"
Crown Theatre, Peckham.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD,
Lancelot (Lead), "Merely Mary Ann."
March 27, Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

MR. and MRS. LEWIS GILBERT
(Lina Nazeby), "A Woman of Impulse" Co.
March 27, Theatre Royal, Torquay.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Disengaged.
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON,
Address,
10, King-street, W.C.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME
Disengaged shortly.
Address, Duke of York's Theatre, W.C.

MR. SYDNEY GREENSTREET,
Sir Toby Belch, Polonius, Dogberry, Feiaship, &c., Ben Greet Co., America.

MR. FRED GROVE
and Miss EMILY GROVE, Frohman's "Merely Mary Ann" Co. Prince's, Bristol.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
Noel le Jolys, in "If I Were King" Co.
March 27, Grand T., Croydon, or A.A.

MR. J. J. GUNNELL,
Business Manager, J. D. Hunter's "Aladdin" Co. Pavilion Theatre, Eastbourne.

MR. HUBERT HARBEN,
On Tour with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal.
At Liberty May 13, for Summer.

MR. A. C. HARDIE, Engaged by H. Beerbohm Tree, Esq., for "Tempest" Tour. At Lib. May 22. Shakespeare, Liverpool, 27.

MR. FRANK HARDING.
Please address all communications,
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MR. W. HARGREAVES,
Disengaged April 3. Offers invited.
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MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
"A Country Mouse" Co.
March 27, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. MORRIS HARPER,
Stage Manager, "Peggy Machree." Mar. 27. Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. CYRIL HARRISON,
At Liberty. Part or Management.
52, Upperton-gardens, Eastbourne.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Edward Creighton and Stage-Management, "Garden of Lies." Mar. 27, T. R., Bournemouth.

MR. & MRS. GRAHAME HERINGTON
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MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged. Principal Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY,
Disengaged March 30.
Address, 201, South Croxted-road, Dulwich, S.E.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD,
Offers Invited.
Address, 86, The Drive, Fulham Park-gardens, S.W.

MR. ALFRED H. HOOK,
Bus. Man., Mr. Peter Eland's "Little Red Riding Hood." Mar. 27, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

MR. and MRS. WILL HOOK (Miss Daisy Carlton), March 24, Production, "In the King's Name," Croydon; 27, Woolwich.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE,
Comedian, Musical, Farcical Comedy, Good Drama. 1, Grafton Mansions, Venn-st., S.W. Agents.

MR. JOSEPH HUDSON,
"The Blanchard Diamonds."
March 27, T. R., Bury.

MR. S. HERBERT HUMBER,
BEATRICE SINCLAIR. Both Dis. April 3.
Mr. H., Lead. "Fatal Wedding." T. R., Chorley.

MR. WHITFORD KANE,
Jacky, in "Sunday."
March 27, Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Soubrette, Char. Com.
March 27, Coronet Theatre, W.

MR. CHAS. F. JOHNSON.
Manager, Mr. John Wainwright's Co. Disengaged. Add., 24, Holstein-st., Ardwick, Manchester.

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Touring the Success of 1904, "Life's Sweetest Sins." March 27, Prince's, Portsmouth.

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with Leonard Rayne, Esq., South Africa.
Address, Opera House, Cape Town.

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MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. C. B. KESTON,
Mr. Brandon Thomas's "Charley's Aunt" Co.
March 27, Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. CLAUDE KING,
Juvenile Leading Business. Care of Messrs. Sass and Nelson, Standard Theatre, Johannesburg.

MR. CECIL KINGSLEY, as Edgar Verney, the Artist, in "The School Girl."
March 27, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MR. ARTHUR KNIGHT,
Heavies, Character, Stage or General Man.
Miss E. KNIGHT, Lead. King's T., Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
Starring as Le Loup, "Face at the Window,"
T. R., Chesterfield.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.
Address,
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MR. FRANK LACY,
Mr. Frohman's Co., "Merely Mary Ann."
March 27, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE,
Manager and Stage-Director, Mr. Mouillot's "Geisha." Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington.

MR. ERSKINE LANG,
as Sir Laurence Borthwicke, in "Peggy Machree." Mar. 27, P. of W. T., Birmingham.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
Jessie Price). J. P. Dis.; C. L., Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE,
as Jack England.
March 27, Brixton Theatre.

MR. EDWARD LEROY,
Disengaged. Heavies, Char., Juvs., or Com.
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MR. ALFRED LESTER,
Engaged to Stage Manage the New Musical Comedy, "The Officers' Mess."

MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
Chamboran, in "Proof."
Mar. 27, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, Six Nights.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY,
Manager, "A Country Girl" (N.) Co.
Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. EDWIN LING (Miss Nellie Ling). E. L., Rev. Toop, and S.-M., "Saturday to Monday" Co. O. H., Cheltenham.

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MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
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March 27, Theatre Royal, Glossop.

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En route; or, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

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MR. & MRS. WILLIAM MALLALIEU.
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MR. H. F. MALTBY.
Prince Mazaroff, in "Slaves of Passion."
Mar. 27, Carlton T., Saltley. At Lib., April 24.

MR. D. LEWIN MANNERING,
Baron Bonelli and Stage-Manager in "The Eternal City," on tour. Mar. 27, G. T., Brighton

MR. FREDERICK MANTELL,
Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry and Stage Manager, "Miss Michief" Co. T. R., Hanley. Dis Shortly.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
at Liberty.
Address, 333, King-street, Hammersmith, W.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
March 27, County, Bedford.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN,
Advance Manager, Compton Comedy Co.,
March 28, Theatre Royal, Greenock.

MR. HERBERT MAULE,
Returned from South Africa. Offers invited.
Add., 10, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
March 27, Perth Theatre, Perth.

MR. QUINTON McPHERSON,
as Sid Prince, "Sherlock Holmes," with Mr. W. Gillette. Empire Theatre, New York.

MR. CHARLES MEDWIN,
at Liberty for Autumn.
Savoy Theatre.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
Disengaged.
Address, 409, Edgware-road, W.

MR. ANDREW MONEY, Relinquishing Heavy Lead, "Rich and Poor of London."
at Lib. Ap. 3, Lead, Heavies. O. H., Wakefield.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY, MARIE HARCOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, in "Napoleon the Great." Opera House, Wigan.

MR. & MRS. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS
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Address, 133, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

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Miss Marie Jones). Lead, Heavies, &c. Chambermaids, Boys. Add., T. R., Rochdale.

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MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
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MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE
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MR. WILFRED E. PAYNE,
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MR. and MRS. KINGSFORD PEARCE
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MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Adelphi Theatre.
Perm. address, 65, Redcliffe-rd., South Kensington.

MR. HERBERT PEARSON,
Lead, Juvenile, Heavy. Dis. April 3.
13, Haselrigge-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Address A. A.; or, Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, Australia.

MR. W. H. PERRETTE,
Disengaged March 27. Leading Heavy or Character. 21, Medway-street, Chatham.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY
(Miss Gertrude Price), Dis. May 1, Leading Business. Mar. 27, R. T., Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP,
General Manager, Author, Composer, Producer. At Liberty. Care of "The Era."

MR. FELIX PITT,
Engaged by Louis Calvert, Esq., "The Garden of Lies." Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

MR. DONALD PRICE-EVANS,
Miss Ada Reeve's Co.
Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR, Sir Henry Curwen, "Breed of the Treshams," with Mr. Martin Harvey. March 27, King's T., Glasgow.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR,
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March 27, Star, Liverpool.

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Canterbury. 2, Aliwal-road, Clapham Junction.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
"The New Clown" Co.
March 27, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

MR. JULES SHAW,
Engaged by Miss Tita Brand for Gratiano, in "Othello." Shaftesbury Theatre.

MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
and MISS ALICE ARDEN (Mrs. S.), Disengaged. 34, Margaretta-terrace, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK,
Bingle, "The Girl from Japan."
New Theatre, Oxford.

MR. JOHN B. SHINTON,
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Elm Dene. Victoria-road, Tue Brook, Liverpool.

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Lead or Light Comedy. Captain Donegal, "Florodora," Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

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Touring, "Queen of the Night," and "Trilby." Address, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
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Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Dis., Apr. 3. Business or Stage Management.
March 27, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS
Dis., Comedy Char., Man; KATE PARRY, Juv., Light Com. 25, Kathleen-rd., Clapham, S.W.

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Permanent address, 3, Springdale-road, London, N.

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MR. RAYMOND THOMAS,
Disengaged April 3.
March 27, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

MR. WYLIE A. THOMPSON,
Light Comedy, Dudes, &c. Disengaged.
Address, Bridgen, Bexley, Kent.

MR. CHARLES THORBURN, General Manager, Geo. Musgrove's "Prince of Pilsen" Co. Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's Co. March 27, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

MR. TRUEMAN TOWERS.
Disengaged. General or Stage-Management.
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MR. GEORGE TRAILL
Dis. Character Bus., Comedy, or Old Men.
Address, 17, Manchester-st., Gray's Inn-rd., W.C.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD,
March 26, The British Empire Shakespeare Society. Address, 1, Holland Villas-road, W.

MR. PERCY TYLER, Disengaged.
Tramp, Stage-Manager, in "Message from Mars." Meadow Side, Staines.

MR. A. W. TYRER,
Horace Holmcroft, "New Magdalen" Co.
Disengaged April 3. 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham.

MR. FREDERICK TYRRELL,
Rev. Elihu Garside, "Winnie Brooke, Widow,"
March 27, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. GEORGE UNWIN,
Mr. Charles Steuart's Co., "Our Flat,"
March 27, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN,
Miss M. Lewes, Lead, "The Garden of Lies."
Mr. Vaughan. "Sunday" Co. Court T., Warrington

MR. PERCY H. VERNON, Captain Larolle, "Under the Red Robe"; Alderman Westham, "Garrick." B. T., Stratford, E., 6 Nights.

MR. and MRS. C. VERNON-PROCTOR
(Miss Amy Rudd). March 27, Rehearsing, Standard, E. Per add., 131, Endlesham-rd, Balham.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
David Rossi, "The Eternal City."
Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. LIONEL VICTOR,
Address,
207, South Lambeth-road, S.W.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Lucy Beaumont). Disengaged April 3 for one week. 8, Bridge-avenue, Hammersmith.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT,
Representing "Urbanora."
Address, 10, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Leading Heavies, General Management, at Liberty. 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. HARRY WALSH,
Mickey O'Dowd, "My Lady Molly." Dis. Easter. Athenæum, Lancaster.

MR. EDWIN WALTON,
Address, A 344,
The Safe Deposit Co., Chapel Walks, Manchester.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM,
Engaged by Miss Tita Brand.
Shaftesbury Theatre, W.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Lead, Disengaged April 10.
March 27, Theatre Royal, Bury.

MR. HYLTON WARDE,
Specially engaged by Fred J. Kirke, Esq.
Address, 17 Doris-rd., Norwich, or A.A.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE,
March 27, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.
Disengaged Easter.

MR. HENRY WARDROPER, the Celebrated Entertainer, open for own Musical Monologue (Curtain-Raiser). "The Era."

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Disengaged.
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Grand Theatre,
Leeds.

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Mrs. W., Dis., Heavies, &c. 192, King's-rd, Chelsea.

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At Liberty. 20, Jessica-road, Wandsworth Common, West Side, S.W., or A. A.

MR. F. STUART WILLSON,
Duke of Winterset, in "Monsieur Beaucaire." March 27, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE.
Address,
2, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. GRAHAM WINSFORD,
Disengaged May 1. M. Peranza, "The Golden Ladder" Co. Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

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(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—The musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*, has drawn large houses this week. Miss Hilda Guiver plays the title-part with great vivacity, and, possessing a voice of wide range, several of her principal songs are warmly encored. Miss Eily Helene makes a charming Lady Binfield; and Misses Emily Stevens and Hilda Scarisbrick fill their parts admirably as Mrs. Bright and Sadie. The King of Illyria is cleverly represented by Mr. Robert Whyte, jun.; Mr. Robert Selby acts well as Sir John Binfield; and Mr. Leslie Harris shows himself to be a comedian of the first order as Lord Plantagenet. The smart and graceful "speciality" dancing of Miss Madge Rossiter is greatly appreciated; and the chorus work is highly efficient.

Palace Theatre, Ltd. — General Manager, Mr. Ernest Sheldon.—Mr. Jack Lorimer, Scottish comedian, has nightly to respond to many encores; and a highly-interesting turn is given by the Deer Family of North American Indians. The Sisters Llewellyn are admirable vocalists; the Three Sisters Leigh, comediennes, are highly popular; as is also Miss Maud Marlow, who sings tastefully and dances very smartly. Barney Vox, ventriloquist, is extremely amusing, and among other clever artistes, who appear with success, are Mr. J. C. Manley, comedian and dancer; Mr. J. H. Crew, eccentric comedian; and Mr. A. P. Boswell, "the furniture shifter," whose feats are really wonderful. The Bioscope show of pictures are, as usual, novel and interesting.

ABERTILLERY. — Theatre Metropole. — Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventour; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—Mr. John Tully's company, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, is paying a welcome return visit here. Mr. Wm. Taylor gives a powerful portrayal of Uncle Tom; Eva is undertaken by the exceptionally clever child actress, Little Marie; Mr. John Tully is a capital Phineas Fletcher; Mr. James Palmer does well as Mr. Shelby; Mr. J. D. Geddes makes a capital George Harris; Mr. Charles Colwyn is good as Mr. St. Clair; and Simon Legree could not be better played than in the hands of Mr. Fred G. Kay. Mr. St. Vincent Beechy is an amusing Marks. Miss Edith Blanche displays much ability in the double rôle of Eliza Harris and Cassy.

ACCRINGTON. — Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Louis Calvert opened here on Monday with *Sunday*. Colonel Brinthorp is cleverly represented by Mr. J. E. Pearce. Mr. Charles B. Vaughan is a praiseworthy Arthur Brinthorp; Mr. J. H. Manley is well cast as Davy; Mr. Fred Powell should be complimented on his performance as Towzer; and Mr. Ernest Douglas is good as Tom Oxley. Miss E. Watson plays Mrs. Naresby to the life. A nun is well presented by Miss Helen MacGregor; and Sunday is a most painstaking and artistic performance by Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay.

New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—On Monday a good house welcomed the following:—The Brothers Houstin, comedians; Viviania, dancing girl; the Stoll Brothers, and Frank Cass. The evening's entertainment is concluded by the spectacular sketch, *Donnybrook*.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—A return visit is being paid this week by the Craggs, in their musical pantomimical absurdity, *Laughter Land*. The performance throughout is very smart, the chief item being the marvellous acrobatic business of the Brothers Cragg. Neat dancing is given by the Sisters Belgrave. Mr. Henry B. Lewis gives a capital impersonation of the Professor; Mr. Harry Rousby's is an excellent conception of Dick Marlow; Mr. Craigie Edwards is good as the irascible Alderman; Mr. V. C. Raymond is a capital Archie; and Mr. Arthur Behan is successful as Squire Topsam..

ALTRINCHAM.—New Pavilion.—Proprietors, Messrs. Budd, Howe, and Taylor; General Manager, Mr. Fred Budd.—A racy and enjoyable vocal comedy, entitled *The Ladies' School*, by the Cullane Trio, heads the bill here this week. It is an amusing act given in an up-to-date manner. Messrs. Brown and Splnk introduce a trained pony and a number of dogs. A riding competition is run in connection with this sketch. Walter Gurney proves himself to be a versatile comedian. Equally enjoyed are the songs and sayings of R. Look and Bob Pearson. Speciality dances by Fields and Acres are a leading item, and Miss Lily Mason and Miss Lily Pender have secured many admirers with their songs and dances.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Reyill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—*Florodora* opened here on Monday, and was received with enthusiasm. Mr. Daly Cooper has rejoined the company as Tweedlepunch, and is as usual very funny, causing roars of laughter. Miss Leonora Grieve has taken up the character of Dolores, and portrays the romantic, florodean beauty with bewitching effect. Her vocalism and dancing are excellent. Mr. T. Ellis-Ruxton is a remarkably effective impersonator of Gilfain, and other capable artistes include Messrs. Cyril Dane, Derick Knowles, L. Williams, B. Russell, G. Luke, E. Davis, H. C. Jeffcoate, and E. Noble. Miss Rene Steadman is a capital exponent of Lady Holyrood, whose maid, Valleda, is well impersonated by Miss Cissie Murdoch. Miss Daisy Byford is pretty and engaging as Angela Gilfain, and other female parts are in attractive and capable hands.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Mr. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—This new Palace of Varieties continues to be a favourite resort of pleasure-seekers. The artistes this week include the pedestal clog dancer, Will Percival; Chas. Vandyke's laughing panto. absurdity, *Sensations*, is a laughable turn; Shingleton, the singing collier, is a gifted vocalist, and the Gladenbecks, in their Continental speciality act, keep the audience interested. In addition, Sam Shepley, eccentric comedian; the Four Arizonas, in a graceful acrobatic act; Walter Curtis, a clever humorist; Levana, the Arabian acrobat; Beattie Worth, comedienne; Gus Balsiger, American-negro comedian and trick instrumentalist; and Frank Dunlop, comedian, are all artistes of great merit. The Animated Pictures are also a pleasing change. The prize cake walk for amateurs in costume is a big feature, money prizes being offered for the neatest costumes.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Claude Seaton.—That still popular drama, *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, is being presented here this week by Mr. John Wainwright's capable company, and meeting with well deserved success.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allen Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—The bill this week includes Kempton and Murdock, comedians and eccentric dancers; Little Dando, comedian; Lily Sharplin, vocalist; the Bros. Ralston, comedians; the Paragon Trio, clever and artistic vocalists; Jack Campkin, tramp cyclist; and last, but not the least interesting item, an excellent selection of new pictures by the Palace Bioscope, under the direction of Messrs. Blake and Clayton. The Three Henriques, comedy acrobats, were billed, but failed to put in an appearance on Monday evening.

AYR.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On the first three nights of the present week, Mr. Bulmer and his *Sentenced for Life* company have occupied the theatre. Mr. W. Berkeley Hawthorn made a satisfactory Sir Wallace Stillwell; the Captain Paul Derrick of Mr. Ernest Vaughan was pronouncedly tragic. Mr. Edward E. Louis did well as the much-injured son of Sir Wallace Stillwell; the Rev. Martin Orris of Mr. C. Wordley Hulse was manly in style; Miss Mary Dalby played the part of Lady Stillwell exceedingly well; the Adelaide Gray of Miss Madge Douglas was admirable; and the little that Miss Gladys Hawthorn had to do as Kate Rennell was done exceedingly well.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Miss Ada Wallis's No. 1 company, in the musical absurdity, *The Major*, is here this week. Mr. T. C. McQuire gives a true military and lively rendering of the title-rôle; Mr. Alec Godfrey's impersonation of Jeremiah Stoney is very clever; Mr. G. Whitley is amusing as Ezekiah Stoney; Frank Hartley gives a pleasing rendering of the part of George Goodman; and Mr. Geo. Chatterton, as Thomas Twickham, adds considerably to the amusement of the piece. Miss Ada Wallis, as Angelina Touchemp, is admirable; Miss Ethel Poole, as Grace Gampney, acquits herself well; and Miss J. Hughes, as Mrs. Emma Gampney, gives a careful study of that character. The Sisters Verne, top-boot dancers, and the Sisters Valli, instrumentalists, give some pleasing turns.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—After a successful tour, Messrs. Grimin and Drake's pantomime has returned here. The title rôle, Dick Whittington, is charmingly portrayed by Miss Lily Jackson; Alice is in the care of Miss Emmie Hands; Mr. Mark Lane is a very humorous Martha Muggins; the Alderman is suitably entrusted to Mr. Ben Ford; Mr. Will Dennis wins a large share of applause as Idle Jack; the Demon has a good exponent in Mr. Ted Lambert; and Fairy Blue Bell is admirably played by Miss Gladys Wells. The specialities are an important feature, including the Three Seabornes, equilibrist wonders; Messrs. Hess and Lisbon, comedy skaters; the Alhambra Quartette of acrobatic dancers; the Yorkshire Singing Mill Lasses; the Grosvenor Trio, and the Sisters Brenton, who win much praise.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, in *Honour Thy Father*, is here this week. Mr. J. W. Evelyn is extremely good as Gabriel Garth, and Mr. Douglas B. Watson plays Jack Halyard in a fine breezy manner. Mr. Juan de Alberti does well as Duncan Bly, and extremely humorous are Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned Pennycomquick and Mr. Walter Dale as Mike Cobblestone. Miss Mabel Coleman acts the part of Lilian Garth in a sympathetic manner, and Miss Kitty Russell is a winning Mercy Merry. Others who score are the Misses Kate Newton (Gertrude Garth), Lizzie Moorley (Poppy Cornleigh), and Maud Grey (Violet Wilfred).

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The Levinos, in their act, *The Rival Arts*, are the star turn here this week; it is a capital sketch, with some very good songs, whilst the crayon pictures drawn in an incredibly short time meet with a great reception. Zanfretta and Napio are a musical turn of great ability. Miss Florence Esdaille possesses a beautiful soprano voice, and Terry and Bentley are amusing in their comedy act, *The Hunt*. Harris and Worth have some original patter, Crib and Crib, in their comedy act, *After the Ball*, do extremely well, and the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers, are pleasing and successful.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—For the first time this year melodramatic fare is provided by the management, Mr. Frederick Melville's company appearing in that gentleman's sensational play, *Between Two Women*. The strong cast includes that accomplished actress, Miss East Robertson, who scores an emphatic success as the scheming adventuress, Carmen de Savereux, while in the character of Violet Thornton, Miss Vashti Wynne wins the hearts of the audience from the first. There are several good male parts, but none more effective than that of the Rev Philip Carton, handled in a manly fashion by Mr. Hugh Metcalfe. Mr. Harry Marlow makes an excellent Harry Millard, being a young actor of undoubted talent. The villains find effective representatives in Mr. Fred Morgan, as James Durwood, and Mr. George R. Montford, as Major Strangeways. The comedy element is supported by Mr. Frank Ayrton and Miss Madge Seymour, as Jack Pringle and Polly Popp, both of whom work hard and successfully. Mr. Frank Powell plays the part of Earl of Millard with no little ability; Mr. Frederick Sandy, in addition to undertaking the heavy duties of stage management, is seen to advantage in the character sketch of Dick Burgess; Miss Alice Bowes acts with care as the singing Blind Boy. A word of praise is due to Miss Minnie Morgan for the way she assists Mr. Ayrton with the fun that is created in the dressmaking scene. Several other characters are all well represented.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—Crowds have besieged this popular hall twice each evening to see Ahrensmeyer, the cowboy hypnotist, whose performance has been received with no little scepticism and evident amusement. Upon more legitimate grounds, great applause has been accorded the really fine cornet playing of Alice Raymond, who, together with John Kur Kamp, as conductor of the band, and tenor vocalist, join each other in duets with the happiest results. The graceful gymnastic act of Victoria Dagmar, assisted by her clown companion, continues to command admiration. Allis and Cassati contribute a bright turn in song, joke, and dance; Belle Braham retains her position as one of the leading pictorial song artistes; Dick and Dorothy are a youthful pair who can dance in capital style; Daisy Ray scores with her coon song and sand dance; and Nat Watkins, comedian, dances well.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. M. Hurst.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is paying a return visit here this week, and is playing the *Passion of Life*, and on Thursday and Friday *Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Francis Everard is a capital Horace O'Neal, and Mr. Stanley Oban does well as Daddy Kenny. Mr. Harold Wallace gives a capital portrayal of Jack Kenny, and Mr. H. Evan Gibbons renders the villainous Ralph Flint in a most telling manner. Mr. Fawcett Lomas and Mr. F. C. Wybert are both good as Abdullah and Fergus M'Kenna respectively. Mr. Herbert Fuller gives a realistic impersonation of Dan Sprouts, and with Miss Edith Leslie, a capital Tilly Tripp, are chiefly responsible for the lighter vein of the play. Miss Gwendolen Hastings gives a fitting rendering of Nita O'Neal, and Miss Alice Lane is well placed as Alice Kenny. Belle O'Neal has a capital exponent in Miss Gertrude Mitchell.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Fred L. Conynghame's company in the domestic drama *A Mother's Love*. Mr. Conynghame is joint author with Mr. Frank Price. The former gentleman has been called the "Dan Leno" of the dramatic stage, and he well deserves that title for his presentation of Matt Ruddock. Mr. Arthur Rose gives a good interpretation of Paul Wingate; and Mr. Hugh Mewburn submits a satisfactory rendering of Geoffrey Mannering. Miss Laurie A. Pardy ably undertakes the rôle of Ellaine Mervain, and Miss Georgina Thomas makes a successful Mary Smart. Bertha Hanbury, a clever juvenile actress, is an excellent exponent of the part of Marjorie Wingate.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James McCann.—Messrs. Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company opened here on Monday with I. Zangwill's comedy, *Merely Mary Ann*, which met with much success. In the title rôle Miss Nita Faydon, a charming actress, presented a delightful and artistic representation. Mr. Douglas Gerrard was an exceedingly capable Lancelot, his impersonation adding materially to the success; and the rôle of Mrs. Leadbetter was capably interpreted by Miss Gwynneth Galton. Clever character sketches of Peter and the Rev. Samuel Smedge were submitted by Mr. A. Carlaw Grand and Mr. J. W. Macdonald; and Mr. Edward Jephson as Lord Tottenham was all that could possibly be desired. Miss Kathleen Coleman acted naturally as Rosie; and the rôle of Herr Brahmson was in the safe hands of Mr. Herbert Greville.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. John P. Beardmore.—Mr. T. E. Dunville, the clever eccentric comedian heads the bill at this popular theatre, and was accorded a good reception on Monday. Roars of laughter greet the uproariously funny sketch *In a Terrible Storm*, presented by the Sisters Phillips and Bros. Lorenzie. Much interest has been evinced in the performance of Jean Seul, his feats being quite remarkable. Mr. Geo. Belrose and Miss Maud De Velin are good vocalists, and the Paul Hesse Trio are aptly described as the "Danish Marvels," their acrobatic wire act being amazingly clever. Miss Lil O'Gorman is a capital vocalist and dancer, and Miss Nellie Elder, comedienne, also appears. The programme is completed by a new series of the Palace Pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Brock.—The Boisset Troupe commenced on Monday the second and final week of their engagement here, when they produced, with every element of success, their exhilarating sketch, *The Wild West*. Mr. Harry Grey, the Australian nugget, is certainly very funny, and a big hit has been made by Mr. Albert Le Fre, comedian and dancer. The Sisters St. Julian are charming duettists; and the speciality dancing of the Jagos is undoubtedly very smart. Miss Helen Martin, a cultured balladist with a good voice, repeats last week's success; and also appearing are Fred Lincoln and Harry Clifford, comedians.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The chief attraction here is furnished by the Andos, a troupe of remarkable acrobats, jugglers, &c., their startling and clever feats creating quite a sensation. Madame Collard introduces her well trained dogs; the sleight-of-hand performance by Prof. Norton includes many startling card tricks; Mr. Percy Hannon sings remarkably well; Fox and Melville, song illustrators, submit a pleasing performance; the Violas appear in their mysterious and clever performance; and the new pictures exhibited this week by Welsker Bros. delight the crowds. Also appearing are Dale and Vale, vocalists and capital dancers, and the Percys, duettists.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr. Charles Harrington's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* company is here this week. Interest as usual is centred in the virtues of good old Uncle Tom, which are faithfully portrayed by Mr. J. Carr. Phineas Fletcher has an excellent exponent in Mr. J. H. Renney. Miss Hettie Johnson carefully and effectively depicts the good qualities and honour of Eliza Harris; Eva is always watched with an anxious eye by the junior portion of the audience; and the little maid called Minnie, who undertakes the part, wins golden opinions. Mr. Guy P. Ellis makes a very heroic George Harris; Miss Sylvia Stella is an amusing Topsy; and others who lend capable aid are Mr. John Henry Rogers, as Legree; Mr. James Jackson, as Dan Haley; and Mr. Walter Langford, as Marks.

BIRKENHEAD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's combination in *The God of War*, has a considerable following here. Mr. Cassidy earns well-merited popularity by a spirited performance of Dan Donovan, in which he receives admirable support from Miss Lillian Clare, as Dolly Daly. Rega Alvado is appropriately enacted by Mr. Frank Orchard; Mr. Joe Cuthbertson is well suited as Senor Armado; and Count Raspa Cortes is efficiently represented by Mr. Frederick Biron. Carlos Armado is in the able hands of Mr. Stephen Crossley; and Miss Florence Halton plays Madeline Alvado with the requisite power and effect. Remaining parts are in able hands, and the piece is creditably staged.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Wilkie Bard, the popular comedian, is the centre of attraction this week. A good combination also includes Miss Nellie Wallace, a comedienne with both ability and a pleasing style, who has created an excellent impression here; the Brothers Egbert, the happy dustmen, who have made a decided hit; and Lieutenant Frank Travis in a capital ventriloquial show. Mr. Walter Groves, a clever comedian, is also prominent in the cast; and Miss Nellie Stratton, serio; The Maples, duettists and dancers; and the bioscope, complete the programme. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The New Barmaid* appears here in a variety of new songs, new dresses, &c., and with all the old sparkle and success. Miss Nance O'Neill scores with her charming voice and prepossessing appearance as Ethel Joy, "the new barmaid"; Miss Violet Osmund wins a triumphant reception as the lady journalist; and Miss Hilda Blanche is much admired as Brenda Louth, the old barmaid. Mr. J. B. Montague contributes a veritable feast of fun as Bertie White, his singing of "A Little Bit of Sugar for the Bird" being accompanied by much laughter and applause. Mr. Alexander Loftus, who brings the production, appears successfully as William White; and Mr. Leslie Austin as Captain Lovebury gains the utmost appreciation for his singing. Miss Lottie Stone's Quartet dance several delightful measures.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, M. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Veronique*, which Mr. Geo. Dance presented here for the first time on Monday, was received with the approbation due to this clever, entertaining, and artistic production. Miss Ruth Lincoln gave an enchanting representation of the title-rôle; Mr. Scott Russell was melodious, natural, and buoyant as Florenstan; Mr. Leslie Holland imparted many smart and whimsical touches to the rôle of Coquenard, especially in the last act, where he made a great hit; Mr. Ivan Berlyn was successful as Loustot; Mr. Tom Shelford afforded amusement as the groom; Miss Maud Boyd proved her artistic value as Agatha; Miss Gracie Sinclaire acted prettily as Denise; and Miss Lena Maitland, for all her primness as the aunt, cannot but appear charming, her singing being also most successful.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Lady of Ostend* was cordially welcomed on Monday, with Mr. Lawrence Brough's company. Mr. Harry Hampson as the truant husband plays with admirable resource, and is well supported in the fun-making by Mr. Percy Marshall as the astute father-in-law; Mr. Lawrence Brough's essay as the volatile Baron is marked by all the subtlety at his command, and his success is pronounced. Mr. L. Cory Thomas contributes to the humour as Toby Krockitt; Miss Maud Buchanan gives piquancy to the title-rôle; Miss Grace Milford acts with delicacy and grace as the wife, Dorothy; and Miss Eleanor Gilbart appears with eminent success as Matilda Carbury; indeed, the play, which is put on in the best possible manner, gives general satisfaction.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company commences the dramatic season here in goodly form with the successful play, *The Poor Must Live*. Mr Pan E. Draco vouchsafes a clever picture of the inflexible Earl of Marshwood; Mr. C Brereton Borer appeals successfully as the son and hero; Miss Pattie Elliott wins the affections of the audience as Moya; Miss Olive Fulton as Olga D'Eyncourt conjures great scenes of enthusiasm by the intensity of her acting; and Mr. Geoffrey Fulton plays with skill the part of a society blackguard, one Clifton Manville. Miss Mary Mallalieu is signally successful as the Earl's ward, Dorothy; and Messrs. Arthur Trail and Herbert Clifton score in the comic rôles.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Messrs. Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's company is appearing to full houses here in the military drama, *In the Ranks*. Mr. Edward Lloyd as the long-suffering Ned Drayton secures the full sympathy of the house; Miss Edith Blair-Staples wins high praise for her impersonation of Ruth Herrick; Mr. Herbert Cecil as the lying Gideon Blake shows ability; Mr. Arthur Palling shines as the bluff and hearty Colonel Wynter; Mr. Cecil Morand exudes fun as the comic-singing Joe Buzzard; Miss Harriett Russell is popular as Mrs. Buzzard; and Miss Lallah Davis as Barbara Herrick (with song) is successful.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Sydney.—*The Sins of a City*, presented by Miss Winifred Maude and company, draws riveted attention, chiefly through the clever work of Miss Winifred Maude herself, as the heroine, Seaweed. Excellent support is rendered by Mr. C. Harker, who, as the villain, Ralph Blackwater, stirs the resentment of the audience to a desirable pitch; and Miss Marie Lyons as the wicked Lesbia. Mr. A. Chisholm as the hero, Sandy; Mr. Victor Du Cane as the twin brothers; Mr. C. H. Carrigan as Donald McIvor; Mr. V. C. Moors as the comic Jew; and Miss Jenny Hackett as the servant do exceedingly well.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr. Dan Barnard.—*A Modern Adventuress*, played by Messrs. Carson and Granville's company, is received with every token of success. Mr. Royce Carlton is applauded for his manly and invigorating assumption of the hero; Miss Alice Defoe wins sympathy by her winsome acting as the heroine, Vivette; Mr. Edward H. Hamilton inspires loathing in the villain's rôle; and Miss Kate Froude invests the name-part with an effective personality. Mr. Leonard Ardale scores in his original part of Pietro Donelli, the sculptor; Mr. Evan Roland as the Yorkshireman and Miss Emily Custance as Sally, create much laughter; and Messrs. G. P. Lester, L. Montgomery, and G. D. Knight are efficient in their rôles.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Vocalism of a high order is furnished

by Marguerite Cornille; Mendel, the blind pianist, is loudly applauded for his selections, both classical and humorous; Mortch and Elliott are expert in their paper manipulation, and their musical turn is well received; the American Sisters Meredith have a good vocal scena. Other excellent turns are provided by Florrie St. Clair, dancer; T. C. Callaghan; Victor Travers; Burns and Evans, comedians; Frazer and Mac, in their "Mirth and Melody" speciality; and the Japanese Guards, who give a smart exhibition of cavalry drill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—*The Belle of the Orient* remains another week, the excellent singing and dancing being highly appreciated. Eileen Douglas is responsible for some delightful songs, which she renders in an artistic manner. Atroy, in his juggling act, is decidedly clever; the Burnellys, in their acrobatic stilt display, are smart. Viola, in her musical act; Fred Poplar, Walter King, Albert Darnley, and the Karno Trio, comedians, and Kitty Wagner, comedienne, add to the evening's enjoyment.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The delightful singing of Annie Purcell, who is paying a return visit, is responsible for the large audiences here; Barrett and King are popular comedians; and the negro ditties of T. E. Finglass are appreciated. Iben Obed, Arabian equilibrist; the Holloway Trio, in their wire act; Mons. Ernesto, eccentric juggler; and Arthur Laceby, comedian, come in for a large share of applause. The Bros. Lavelle, in their clever acrobatic wire act, complete the bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. George Foster.—Chung Ling Soo is attracting large houses, his conjuring tricks are really marvellous; Les Voces render their operatic selections with effect; Cyclo is expert on the wheel; Fred Terry and Will Mitcham are capital comedians, Maud Rose, comedienne; The Bros. Obo, duettists; and the Bros. O'Brien, in a skilful horizontal bar act, are also in the programme.

CURZON HALL.—Hamilton's Excursions continue to attract large audiences. In addition to their well-known panorama, and animated picture show, some good variety turns appear. Dolly Moore is a dainty comedienne, and as a local comedian Will Souls is above the average.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—Mr. George Dance's company is presenting *The Orchid* for the first time in Blackburn. Miss Ethel Bryant is a charming Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Madge Lucas gives an animated rendering of Caroline Vokins; Miss Chrissie Raland is very good as Thisbe; Miss Ida Chichester, and Miss Sylvia Lacy also deserve a word of praise. Mr. G. Davy Burnaby plays Guy Scrymgeour in a capable manner; Mr. Bertie Wright is an amusing Meakin; and Mr. Edmund Page, Mr. Ernest Darrell, and Mr. Edmund Hollick likewise contribute to the success.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Frank Stephens is paying a return visit with the sensational play, *Because I Love You*. Mr. Frank Stephens himself sustains the part of the "Vulture" in a very judicious manner; Mr. Henry Hatchman plays Christopher Chandos with graceful ease; Miss Madge North is a pleasing Nelly Bly; and Miss Trissie Humphrys does ample justice to the part of Lady Ursula Milfoyle. Some excellent comedy acting is supplied by Mr. Horace Buckley and Miss Nell Ingram.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Karno's comedians once more top the bill with *Dandy Thieves*. The remaining turns are Mr. Charles Sloman, comedian; the Brothers Le Bois, jugglers; Gus Darrell, comedian; and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Knox.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. G. E. Good.—The pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, has been presented here by a capable company. As Robin Hood Miss Pattie Fairley, who possesses a winning voice and a good figure, had a pleasing reception, and the Maid Marion of Miss Eva Frere was a success. As the Nurse, Bridget Riley, Mr. Alf Foy was a conspicuous figure. The special turns introduced by the Two Flowers, coon dancers; Mademoiselle Robson, mezzo-soprano; Gilbert Payne, comedian; Halma, in a high class display of Continental jugglery, and Roy Lovell, tenor vocalist, added much to the success of the production.

ALEXANDER HALL.—This week the Combination under the control of comical Bob Anderson, concludes what has been a very enjoyable entertainment for the all-too-short season.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Hermann.—*A Girl's Cross Roads*, by Walter Melville, is being played here this week. Prominent in a capable company is Miss Hilda Beverley, who displays great ability in her clever impersonation of the character of Barbara Wade. Mr. Charles Franmore, as Meadows, gives a good rendering of the part. The drama is well staged.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A good company is appearing here, comprising Karl and Mary Ohm, with their clever troupe of ponies, bears, dogs, and monkeys; Miss Cassie Walmer, coloured comedienne and dancer; Bob Hutt, eccentric comedian; Percy Maye, female impersonator; the Bohemians, musical artistes; the Brady and Johnson combination, in a comedy act, *Turning the Tables*; Charles R. Whittle, comedian; C. F. Best, mountebank; Joe Boganny's Lunatic Bakers, Risley performers; Ellis Barrieton, extraordinary double-voiced vocalist; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Mouillot and De Frece; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Madame Ada Colley, the Australian prima-donna, is proving a great draw here. The Picquays, in their hand balancing act, also provide an entertainment of exceptional excellence. The bill includes, besides Saxo, instrumentalist, Harry Walker, patter comedian; Captain Slingsby, ventriloquist; Will Poluski, Junr., comedian and dancer; Ruffell's Bioscope, and last, but not least, Mdlle. Roza's canine hippodrome.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*The Girl from Japan*, which is well staged and mounted, is the attraction this week. A most successful exponent of the title-rôle is found in Miss Dorothy Denton, who acts and looks well. Miss Rita Tomkins has a nice voice, and is quite charming as Polly Perkins. Mr. George Hudson, whose voice enables him to do justice to the music belonging to the part of Lord Allenbury, is really good. The ubiquitous Bingle is well played by Mr. Frank Sherlock, and Mr. Percy Bayerstock as General Baugh, and Mr. Carlyle Pritchard as the Rev. John Smith, are quite excellent. Lady Flippington is carefully played by Miss Florence Nelson, and Mr. Colet Dare gives a finished reading of the part of Horatio Binks. The speciality dancing by Miss Jean van Dalle, and the Sisters Violet and Lillie English, is quite a feature of the play, the first-named lady earning unstinted applause.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Little Mary* was presented to an eager and expectant audience here on Monday by Messrs. Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company. Miss Ethel Dane as Moira Loney scored a real success in a natural and charming impersonation of the character; Mr. George Mudie's Earl of Carlton was a convincing performance; and as the Countess of Plumleigh, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was delightful. Mr. G. A. Brandram's Sir Jennings Pyke was an excellent sketch of a pompous physician; and Lord Rolfe was capitally played by Mr. A. Kightley. As a curtain-raiser great interest was centred in Messrs. Louis N. Parker and W. W. Jacobs' thrilling story in two scenes, *The Monkey's Paw*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*The Female Swindler*, another of Mr. Walter Melville's thrilling plays, is the attraction this week. The piece, which is finely staged, has many novel and interesting situations, and it is capably represented by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's excellent company. Miss Constance Elgin gives a fine dramatic performance of the title rôle; in the part of May Andrews Miss Florrie Kelsey wins favour; the criminal investigator, Coulson, is well represented by Mr. Jerrold Heather; in the hands of Mr. Cyril Austen Lee the part of Geoffrey Warden is very effective; and Mr. Luke Foster as a budding detective, Mr. Rule Pyott as a Jew, and Miss Evelyn Marrable as Mary Ann Mee, are responsible for the welcome comedy relief.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—There is a fine programme here this week, and fun reigns supreme. Ernest Shand, with his "Short Stories," and his sketch *The Waiter*, elicits roars of laughter. Tom Costello, with his "Ten Pound Note," and his clever sketch *The Old Clown*, blends genuine fun with intense pathos very cleverly. The imitations of popular comedians given by that clever mimic Syd May evoke great and well-merited applause; and Roze and Calvert in their irresistible sketch, *Captain Kettle*, are responsible for much hearty laughter. A welcome return visit is being paid by those graceful and clever acrobats, the Trapnell Family; Seeley and West are a pair of diverting comedy musicians; Jenny Belmore in dashing style contributes a song and dance, and with Harry Martell in a comedy turn, and an excellent story told by the American Bioscope, the entertainment is complete.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. E. Berry.—Considerable interest is aroused here this week by the appearance of Rosa and Josepha Blazek, the remarkable Bohemian Twins. Dandy George makes a welcome re-appearance with his clever dog "Rosie." A skilful performance in foot balancing is given by the Wartenburg Bros.; Edgar Budden gives a novel turn as bone soloist and roller-skate dancer; the comedy acrobats, Ryde and Beeman, are diverting; there is much skill exhibited in the high pedestal dancing by the Lannons, and excellent contributions by Lily Marney, comedienne, and by Harry Cotton and Herbert Betts, vocal comedians, add interest to the programme.

BRIDLINGTON.—NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—In connection with his annual exhibition, Mr. Hague has provided for his patrons a good variety show for the week, including Mr. W. B. Norris's Court Orchestra; Mr. Walter Howard, comedian banjoist; Parlatto, with his excellent chapeaugraph characters, mimicry, magic kettle, &c.; Mr. Billy Richardson, comedian; and the Biograph Pictures.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is here this week with *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. Martin Adeson gives an excellent and humorous impersonation of Sergeant Brue; Mr. Charles Hanbury is admirably suited as Michael Brue; and Miss Hilda Antony makes a delightful and winsome Aurora Brue. Mr. George Barrett achieves distinct success by his very clever enactment of Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. Thomas Holding is highly effective as Gerald Treherne; Mr. Campbell Bishop submits a capital character study as Mr. Crank; Miss Hebe Bliss is a smart Lady Bickenhall; and Miss L. Zambray a vivacious Daisy. The choruses are well sung, and the duties of conductor are in the hands of Mr. Ernest Hermann.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. William Bourne's company opened here on Monday with *When Darkness Falls*, which was admirably staged. Mr. Charles Boult as the hero, Captain Harold Montrevor, showed able acting; and Miss Emily Nicholls gave a graceful and charming representation of the heroine, Helen Montrevor. The villainous James Woodruffe had a forcible exponent in Mr. Ellis L. Preston; Miss Amy Vennimore submitted an excellent character sketch as Mrs. Woodruffe; and the designing Bertin was effectively impersonated by Mr. Alfred Wright. Mr. Frank Liston as the Rev. Arthur Graham was earnest and convincing. Much amusement was afforded by Mr. Will Clement as Mike Cavanagh and Miss Emmeline Glover as Jenny; and the waifs, Jim and Harry, had pleasing exponents in Miss Lydia Hart and Miss Alys Eden respectively.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—The management reverted on Monday to the old order of things—one performance nightly—and arranged an excellent programme. Mr. Horace Goldin fairly bewilders the audience with his startling and cleverly effected illusions; Arthur Preston and company are very amusing in the sketch, *The Terrible Doings of Flanaghan*; and much fun is afforded by the Wyffs in another sketch, *The Parson's Mishaps in a Londan Flat*. Griff, "the jocular juggler," is as entertaining as ever; Starr and Leslie, Indian club performers and vocalists, merit warm praise; Lola Dalby is a pleasing variety artiste; Annie Reid, comedienne, is well received; the Olive Trio are admirable vocalists and dancers; Hatton McCullah, the Irish vocalist, is successful; Leslie Race is a capital character comedian; and the programme closes with the Alhambra pictures.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Henry Bute and Mr. Herbert Maule's company is here this week with *The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown*. Mr. Herbert Maule gives an amusing portrayal of Captain Courtenay, who poses as "Miss Brown"; Miss Edith Stewart makes a delightful Angelina Brightwell; Mr. Henry Bute is a droll Sergeant Tanner; Mr. Archie Bradshaw's Herr Von Moser adds to the fun; Mr. G. P. Polson's Major C. Gallagher and Miss Wymond's Miss Romney merit commendation; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Mdlle. Haydee achieves great success with her eccentric Mannikin Theatre; Leo Tell, a clever and amusing artiste, gives imitations of animals and musical instruments; Mons. Francis, "the cannon-ball king," assisted by his comedy satellite, Alfred, submits an excellent turn; the entertainment provided by Lind is distinctly graceful and clever; Maggie Walsh, the original Lancashire singing mill girl, renders her songs in pleasing style; George Lockhart's elephants, introduced by Captain Taylor, give evidence of skilful training; the Musical Johnsons are warmly applauded for their performances on xylophones; the Hartley Wonders, in their famous jumping act, combine skill and humour; and the Animated Pictures are interesting.

COLISEUM.—Manager, Mr. C. Smith-Wilkes.—Violet Elliott, the Australian lady bass, is a great attraction here, and wins enthusiastic applause for her artistic vocalisation; Wensley Russell, society comedian and entertainer, submits an admirable turn; Valazzi, Canadian athlete and juggler, is smart; Fred Richards, the original singing newsboy, acquits himself very effectively; Cissy Asbury is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Gwen Howard, comedienne, gives her songs in charming style; Sam Ives, ball-puncher, displays great skill; the Sisters Morde are capital duettists and dancers; and the fine series of Coliseum pictures adds materially to the enjoyment of the audience.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The first appearance in Bristol of Mr. William Greet's company, in the musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*, has proved attractive. The play is mounted with artistic taste, the dresses being both rich and elegant; the chorus is an exceptionally good one, and the augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Evelyn Baker. Mr. William Stephens makes a capital part of Jim Cheese; he gets valuable assistance from Miss Dot Carey, who displays much humour as Liza Shoddham, and their dances obtain much applause. Mr. Percy Carr and Miss Aimée Grey are pleasing in their respective parts of Dick Wargrave and Elphin Haye, both singing with expression. Miss Florence Imeson is a smart and lively Daisy Fallowfield, her songs being appreciated; Mr. Fred Hill does well as Crew Boodle; Mr. W. Hindson presents a good sketch of Mr. Downham; Mr. J. C. Graves is amusing as Mr. Talk; Mr. William Walshe is sufficiently demonstrative as Bunker Bliss; Miss Gladys Fontaine acts with much discretion and effect as Mrs. Shimmering Black; and Mr. Tom Redmond is a typical host of the Fallowfield Arms. The smaller parts are all in good hands, and the song, "Zanzibar," with the monkey chorus, pleased immensely on Monday evening, and was deservedly encored.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*The Way of the World* is capitally staged here, and well played by Mr. Montague Beaudyn and Miss Sidney Crowe's company. Miss Sidney Crowe presents a fine powerful exposition of Adele de la Roche, she is consistent throughout, and always interesting; Mr. W. Robertson Foulis acts remarkably well as Matthew Malyon; Mr. Montague Beaudyn makes a good part of Cecil Montague; Mr. Herbert Skardon gives a clever performance as Captain Slade; Miss Irene Munroe is in every way pleasing as Kate Montague; Miss Violette Vivienne acts with much humour and effect as Polly Bell; Miss Annie Clune is commendable as Marion Fanshaw; Mr. Ernest Turner is amusing as Joe Sparrow, without being too extravagant; and Mr. Louis Scott makes a nice light comedy part of Horatio Bluff. Other characters of more or less importance are satisfactorily taken by other members of the company.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An interesting sketch, *The King's Hat*, is being capitally presented here by Miss Ethel Cunningham and company. Miss Marie Kendall, comedienne, has some pueasing songs, and obtains well-deserved applause. Steve McCarthy, comedian, does a good turn; Henri de Marse is expert at sharp shooting; Frank Harwood, character comedian, is appreciated; the Athlones do a smart acrobatic and strong act; Harry Conlin, comedian, provides an enjoyable turn; and Miss May Kent, comedienne, sings in pleasing style. The performance concludes with some interesting animated pictures.

PALACE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Livermore Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr. Wildeman.—Madame Carrie Laurie presents a pleasing entertainment with her kindergarten of vocalists, &c.; the Tom Davies Trio have a sensational act, "Whirling the Whirl," in midair; the Haytors amuse with their comedy, *A Hot Time*; Miss Agnes Molteno, character vocalist, has a good and well-trained voice, which she uses to advantage in pleasing songs; the Mozondos have an amusing eccentric speciality; Archie Glen pleases with song and patter; Hart and Rudd amuse in song and dance; Miss Amy Bellwood is a successful comedienne; Juan and McQue have a smart speciality of comedy, tumbling, &c.; and Forest and King are experts at acrobatic dancing. The performance concludes with an interesting display of Vernon's animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Managing Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. B. Astin.—Mr. H. A. Jordison's pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, which did so well here in the first week of this month, has returned for another week. Miss Madge Daley as Robin Hood wins several encores; Miss Ada Martine dances gracefully, and is full of vivacity as Maid Marian. Messrs. Cullen and Carthy as Beery Bill and Sloppy Dick are amusing; Dame Peggy has a highly diverting exponent in Mr. Rowland Hill; Mr. Edward Avon as Baron Toodle is a comical figure; Little Miss Dolly Cullen and little Miss Elsie Jordison as Reggie and Cissie make charming Babes. Misses Ethel and Bella Brookland dance well as Little John and Phyllis. Miss Beattie Scots as Allan-a-dale; Miss Gabrielle Harvey as Will Scarlett; Miss Kitty Caffrey as Marjory; Miss Nancy Thornton as Dorcas; Mr. W. Francis Green as Herne; and Miss Edie Duncker as Venus, also score. Joridson's Empire Troupe of dancers do a lot of good work. Among the specialities Kioto, Japanese equilibrist, is much applauded.

BURNLEY.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culeen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. Culeen.—The reappearance of Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company in *A Life's Revenge* is proving a strong attraction. The piece is successfully interpreted. Mr. Somerfield acts with much realism as Prince Baris; Mr. Walter Roberts's impersonation of Michael Alloff is impressive; Mr. John F. Traynar gives a powerful rendering of Paul Starovitch. As Maurice Trever, Mr. T. G. Vane puts in a lot of clever work. Miss Amy Ellan vividly sustains the trying rôle of Princess Vanda. Miss Lillie Monckton shows considerable dramatic ability as Marcia Vittaria; Miss Maudie Grayson acts well as Daphne Dashaway; Miss Amy Hughes is a pleasing Acaulina; Mr. Sydney Ernest is an interesting Nicholas; Mr. Charles E. Warne is appreciated as Colonel Tumbleoff; Mr. George C. Hall makes a capital Clarence Chesterfield; and Mr. Edwin Cheetham and Mr. Martin Bigham are good as General Mikhalof and Lieutenant Semaloff.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Cyril Maude's company with *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams depicts to the life the part of Captain Barclay. Plenty of dash and spirit are infused into the rôle of Lieutenant Seyton-Boyne by Mr. Horace Lane. The irascible Major Smedley is vividly portrayed by Mr. Walter Pemberton. Mr. Fred Knight acts well as Dibbs. A prepossessing appearance, added to decided ability, assures a cordial reception for Miss May Fairclough as Ethel Smedley; while Miss Mary Griffiths gives a praiseworthy delineation of the amorous Mrs. Baldwin. The play, which is admirably mounted, is preceded by a new curtain raiser, entitled *That Brute, Simmonds*, in which Mr. Fred Knight, Mr. Fred Lake, and Miss Ethel Stalman are seen to great advantage.

BURY (LANCS).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The well-known Irish drama, *The Shaughraun*, is being played here this week. Mr. E. C. Matthews takes the part of Conn in a manner that could scarcely be improved upon. Miss Lizzie Cooke is excellent as Mrs. O'Kelly. Mr. Tom Nerney as Harvey Duff, Mr. Alex. Bradley as Captain Molyneux, Mr. George Thorne, jun., as Robert Ffolliott, Miss Isabel Cairns as Moya, and Miss Teresa Moore as Arte O'Neale are all well placed.

OLYMPIA CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Miss Florrie Gallimore is a great attraction here this week. Miss Addie Dorina and Mr. Gilbert Fernie in a duologue, entitled *How it was Done*; Bertha Winder, clog dancer; Baroni and Kemp, and Josie Gallimore, a dainty singer, are all good turns.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—The Arthur Saxon Trio, who claim to be the strongest men living, are here; also the New York Comedy Four; Fred Lloyd and Co., in a farce entitled *The Blind Spinster*; and the Wallonells in a comedy bar act.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—ATHENÆUM HALL.—Manager, Mr. Arnold Crack.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company have been here for two nights with *A Country Girl*. Mr. R. Telford, as the irrepressible Barry, keeps the fun going from start to finish, and is very ably seconded by Mr. W. O. Billington as Sir Joseph Verity and Mr. B. Vaughan as the Rajah of Bhong. Mr. H. Standing gives a manly impression of Geoffrey Chaloner. The title-rôle is well portrayed by Miss Anna Robertson, who plays with delightful gaiety and freshness, and Miss Daisy Davis gives a dainty rendering of Marjory Joy. As Sophia Miss Sadie Neville scores a decided success, singing and dancing in most bewitching style; and Miss Lucie Lever acquits herself well as the dusky Oriental princess.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—This week will see the waning of the present term, and on Monday night Messrs. Gerald Alexander and Galway Herbert's company presented the successful farcical comedy, *Facing the Music*. Mr. Ernest Cossart played John Smith in a most happy vein, being genuinely funny, and Mr. Galway Herbert rendered him valuable assistance as Dick Desmond. Mr. George Percy also made the most of the Rev. John Smith. Colonel Duncan Smith was well played by Mr. Gerald Alexander, and Mr. Nelson Wallace played the part of Sergeant Duffell very ably. Miss Katherine Parry made a charming Mabel; Miss Eve Erskine was equally successful as Nora; and Miss Dollie Beaufey as Miss Fotheringay, and Miss Rose Carew as Mrs. Ponting gave first-class representations.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*Saturday to Monday* is presented here by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. The well-known comedians, Mr. Stuart Champion and Mr. Dallas Welford are included in the cast. These gentlemen appear in the rôles of Lord Calvert and Stanley Pidding, respectively, and by their excellent impersonations are mainly responsible for most of the fun. Miss Moyra Creegan is another favourite whose delineation is really good. Mr. Jack Hampton's performance of Probyn Dyke is very acceptable, and Mr. Edwin Ling as the Rev. Lemuel Toop presents a capital delineation. A pleasing portrayal of Angela comes from Miss Kitty Doyle, and exceptionally amusing representations from Miss Adeline Lester, Miss Josephine Rae, and Miss Ida Laurie. *Judged by Appearances* precedes.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman; Business Manager, Mr. Robert Sawin.—*Judy; or, the Fatal Hand*, occupies the boards here this week, and is doing excellent business. Miss Florrie Groves is a really wonderful child, her impersonation of Judy showing her to be an actress of more than ordinary ability. In the dual-rôle of Alice and Polly, Miss Mary Neil is seen to great advantage; Miss Violet Langley enacts the character of Blake with marked effect; Mr. George Kirk carefully handles the part of Grip; and Mr. Richard Ferris as Duburg gives a good interpretation.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—On the top of the bill this week is the wonderful Spadoni, whose manipulation of cannon balls is more astonishing than ever. A performance that evokes considerable surprise is that of the Rossow Midgets; Peppo's monkeys give a clever and original entertainment; a very artistic turn is that of the Three Macarte Sisters; the well-known Finneys win loud applause for their clever aquatic display; and other capital turns are given by Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian; the Katos, with their novel marionette show; Charles Pastor, in his laughing songs; and the Bioscope with excellent pictures entitled "A Lost Child."

CARLISLE.—ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs. P. E. Veitch; Manager, Mr. C. Algie.—The Babusian Brothers contribute the principal turn on the programme this week; their head and hand balancing is wonderfully clever. A pleasing entertainment is given by the Evalos, who, as gymnasts and comedy jugglers, are neat and smart. Not the least popular turn is that provided by the Raynors, contortionists of quite unusual ability; the Delamaine Trio gain applause in their acrobatic comedy act; Veno and his comical nippers; Mr. E. with his comical patter and talking pictures; Lynn, the singing newsboy; and Carlo Bianchi, a clever foot juggler, add to the variety and excellence of the entertainment.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company in *A False Wife*, is the attraction here this week. The scenery is particularly good. Miss Florence E. Florence fills the rôle of Lady Mansfield, otherwise Estelle de Lussan, with conspicuous ability; Miss Elsie Watson sustains the part of Agnes Weyland with grace and charm; Mr. Scott-Leighton, both in appearance and acting, makes an excellent Lieut. George Mansfield; Mr. Frank Strickland does clever work in the part of Jean Lerand; Mr. James Chippendale is rewarded with many a hearty laugh for his Ben Rattler; Miss Minnie Leslie is charmingly pert and agreeable as Bessie Blazer; Mr. John Cecil works well as Zorak; Mr. Owen Edwin causes much merriment by his droll portraiture of Archibald Browne Tee; and Inspector Fulton finds a clever exponent in Mr. Harry Dunham.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. George G. Ridley.—Mr. Ben Greet's company is here this week with *La Poupée*. The audiences enjoy and applaud the performance.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Wal Pink and company delighting the audience with their lively interpretation of a sketch, entitled *Uncle's Wife*. The Grigson Trio introduce plenty of boisterous fun in their act, *The Dummy*, and yet another scena, *Teasing the General*, is given by Perrette and Shelley. Others in the bill are Hilton, ventriloquist; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; the Three Coopers, vocalists; and Arthur Reece, who is a big favourite here, his various choruses being taken up by the audience with great readiness. Lacey's Erascope presents some interesting films.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Donne.—Yukio Tani is the bright particular star of the week's programme; Permane's bears show signs of very patient training; the Sisters Dorrell are a pair of sprightly dancers; and other attractions are Walter Emerson, comedian; Johnny Dwyer, another comedian; the New Macs, with patter, song, and dance; and pictures projected by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. O. Redford.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, is here for the first time. Miss Essex Dane received a great welcome on Monday evening. As Miss Elizabeth Philipse she proves a delightful heroine; Mr. Norman Partriege, as Captain Harry Paton, is at his best, making a dashing and irresistible hero; Mr. Elliott Ball, in the thankless part of Major John Colden, is clever and successful; Mr. J. Harold Carson gives an excellent study of Mr. Valentine; Miss Leonora Braham, as Mistress Sarah Williams, does well; Mr. Arthur Somers, as John Edwards; Miss Marguerite Cellier, as Molly Edwards; Mr. Tom Taylor as Black Sam; Mr. F. Perry as Cuff; and Mr. F. Cellier, jun., as the Sergeant of Light Horse, are all good. *The Borrowed Uncle*, a modern fairy story, is a capital curtain-raiser, in which Mr. Carson again displays his undoubted talent as Timothy Tilby, assisted by Messrs. Somers and Cellier, and Miss Cellier, as John Griffin, Dr. Wakefield, and Lucy Winwood.

CHESTER.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Burgess Harries.—*A Trip to Chinatown* is playing here to good houses, Mr. Leslie Norman's company being responsible for the production. Mr. Charles Seguin has a part that fits him well as Welland Strong; Mr. Jerrold Manville makes the most of his opportunities as Ben Gay; Mr. Will Smith is well placed as Noah Heap; Miss Harriet Fawn appears with success as Mrs. Guyer; Miss Dorothy Vicott is a vivacious Flirt; and Little Britton makes a capital Jones, of Chinatown.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company occupies these boards with *Floradora*. Mr. William Everard shows ability as Lord Abercoed; he is ably assisted by Miss Violet Leslie, as Dolores; Mr. C. Young Fixott is a versatile and amusing Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. Arthur Lenville an irresistibly funny Anthony Tweedlepunch; and Miss Cissie Sephton an entertaining Lady Holyrood. Mr. Frank Grans, as Captain Donegal, Mr. W. Rousell, as Leandro, and Miss May Yates as Angela Gilfain, deserve special mention. An augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. E. Ernest Irving.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Samuel L. Urwick.—Mr. C. P. Levilly's company is this week presenting *Amorelle*. Miss Ada Grey, as Lesbia, scores a distinct success, rendering her vocal numbers admirably; Mr. Leon Simkin, as Dr. Crow, is excruciatingly funny; Miss Empsie Bowman, in the title-rôle, is seen and heard to advantage in her songs; Mr. Arthur Cozens gives a clever portrayal of the part of Jules; Mr. Horace Manger is a huge success as Alphonso; Mr. Edward Granby and Mr. George Paulton both deserve praise; and Mr. Fred Carrington meets with great favour in "'Twas a Stormy Night." There is a full chorus and augmented orchestra under the capable direction of Mr. William H. Davin.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Secretary, Mr. J. Clay.—Mr. Peter Eland's highly successful pantomime, *Red Riding Hood*, is being presented here and had a hearty reception on Monday evening. Miss S. Battye charmingly rendered Red Riding Hood; Miss Rosie Kearns gave a capital representation of Robin Oak Apple; Messrs. R. Royle as Widow Bailey, Charlie Howarth as John William, and Master Lennie Ankers (P.C. 19) are three exceptionally smart comedians, causing much amusement. The Wolf is undertaken by Mr. W. Raynor, whose capital voice is heard to great advantage; Miss I. Whitehead scores heavily as the Fairy Queen; Miss Rita Vincent is good as Bluebell; Mr. H. J. Foster capitally renders Sir Seely Chump. Smart specialities are given by Mr. Syd Mountford, the modern magician, and the Syrian Troupe of Dancers. Mr. Alfred Hook is in charge of the business portion of the production.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Mary Watson; Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—The attraction here this week is provided by Mr. Alfred J. West with a cinematograph entertainment. The pictures shown display military and naval life, and are favourably received.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—Mr. J. F. Buckley's company is presenting *The New Clown* during the present week. Mr. G. H. Snazelle as the Ringmaster is wonderfully entertaining; and the same must be said of Mr. Frank Stanmore as Lord Cyril Garston. Mr. D. Payne presents a fine type of muscular development as Billy, and the part of Thomas Baker is efficiently embodied by the general manager of the company, Mr. W. J. Elworthy. Miss Beth Elliott makes a charming Rosie Platt, and smaller parts are capably undertaken by Miss Kathleen Maitland and Miss Nora Wynne as the Misses Chesterton, Mr. Charles Pierpoint (Captain Jack Trent), and Mr. Cecil Underwood as Mr. Pennyquick.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. Messrs. Carson and Granville's company is here with *The Heart of a Hero*, which is proving a strong attraction. Mr. Fred W. Goddard is an excellent Jim Resdale, his acting in the last scene in act three evoking vociferous applause. Mr. Chas. E. Johnson gives an excellent portrayal of the villain, Wilfrid Marl; and as Jack Collinson, Mr. G. Sutherland wins great praise, being well supported by Mr. Eric Forth, as Dave Pritchard. Mr. Harry Scatchard has a heavy part as George Winston, in which he acquits himself admirably; Mr. Hugh Brady, as Timothy Heighno; and Miss Ada Mackey, as Susie Slack, keep the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Lily Langley is a pleasing May Ryder, her rendering of the part being most effective; whilst as Nell Resdale, Miss Cissie St. Elmo has proved herself an actress of really excellent ability.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Bennett.—A great attraction is provided this week at the above house in *The Silver King*, presented by G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. On Monday a crowded house gave the piece a well-deserved and cordial welcome. Mr. Herbert Ford gives a highly finished impersonation of Wilfred Denver, and is ably supported by Miss Lilian Bethel, as Nellie Denver; Mr. Edward J. George gives a clever rendering of Daniel Jaikes, their faithful servant; Mr. Charles Levey gets well-deserved credit in the character of Capt. Herbert Skinner, *alias* The Spider; Mr. Byron Pedley is successful as Samuel Baxter; Mr. James Power causes no little merriment as Henry Corkett; and Mr. E. Arnold Palmer, as Geoffrey Ware, and Mr. Arthur Rooke, as Elijah Coombe, also deserve attention.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—A comedy sketch is one of the principal turns given this week by the Forrest Combination, and on Monday it kept the large audience in a continual state of merriment. An acrobatic entertainment is submitted with much cleverness by Pitt and Cute; W. H. Hall is a mimic who seems able to imitate anything; Will Cornish is a capital bell manipulator; and Miss Ada Whitton is a capable burlesque artiste. Elliott and Warne prove success

has quite fulfilled anticipations. Mr. Fred Powell was powerful in the title-rôle; Mr. W. R. Winning gave an excellent rendering of Paul Blanchard, and Mr. Pulson Turner excelled in his representation of Lorentz de Ribas. A strong and well-marked individuality was brought to bear upon Alphonse de Coucou by Mr. Harry Agar Lyons, who was ably supported by Mr. John Brittain as Dodo. Captain Guerin was enthusiastically applauded as acted by Mr. A. James; Cora Simmonet was well rendered by Miss Georgie De Lara, and true pathos characterised Miss Helena Walbran's assumption of Sophie Blanchard.

DOUGLAS.—Empire Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Sugden; General-Manager, Mr. Roberto Lena.—The Irish play, with songs, *Donnybrook*, was cordially received here on Monday evening. It was most conscientiously acted by Miss Lena Lewis, Miss Lovel, Mr. Ernest Percival, Mr. Will Priestly, and Mr. Roberto Lena. The applause was sincere and discriminating. A complimentary benefit was given to Mr. Lena on Thursday. His popularity is very great in Douglas, he having through a long winter provided week by week, sometimes changing the bill twice a week, interesting plays well mounted, and carefully represented. The pièce de resistance of this occasion was *The Sorrows of Satan*, in which Mr. Lena appeared as Prince Lucio de Remanez, Mr. Ernest Percival as Geoffrey Tempest, and Miss Lena Lewis as Lady Sybyl.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale and company are here this week with *David Garrick*, *The Lady of Lyons*, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, and *The Sleigh Bells*. Mr. Hoggan-Armadale assumes to perfection the polished style and graceful manner associated with David Garrick, and his [illegible]ice and fine elocutionery powers serve to [illegible]ortrayal of the famous actor an artistic [illegible]. Florrie Florence, a young and talented [illegible] winsome and sweet as Laura Bedford, [illegible] with delightful simplicity and charm. The part of Squire Tom Overdon is played with considerable power and dramatic effect by Mr. Fred Wilberforce, who fully realises the brutality of the drunkard and profligate. Mr. W. F. Clitherow gives a clever little touch of pompous dignity to his impersonation of Joshua Bedford, and Mr. Henry Osman is humorous as Mr. Hoskins. Mr. Peterkin is ably played by Mr. James Fox. Mr. Bartlett Garth delivered the lines allotted to the part of Mr. Gampshire admirably, and Mr. Wilfred Justin as Thompson, and Mr. F. Booth-Conway as the landlord of the "Three Pigeons" are all that be desired. A commendable performance of the colourless part of Lydia is given by Miss Violet Wilson; Mrs. E. C. Matthews shows genuine comedy powers in her amusing portrayal of Miss Patience Platt; and Miss Evelyn is a pert and pretty Priscilla. The play on Monday was preceded by a one-act comedy, entitled *A Kiss in the Dark*, in which Miss Violet Wilson, and Messrs. James Fox and Henry Osman took part.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened here on Monday, in the pretty comedy, *A Country Mouse*. Mr. Percy Hutchison acts the part of the Hon. Archibald Vyse in a praiseworthy manner, and Miss Violet M. Harley acquits herself admirably as Angela. The rôle of John Bowlby, M.P., is well sustained by Mr. Charles Harley, and Miss Violet Ley is creditable as Lady Sylvia Bowlby. The part of the Duke of St. Kitts is capably played by Mr. F. G. Thurstans, and Miss Dorothy Casey is well placed as Violet Aynsley. Mr. Edward Bonfield makes a capable Lord Robert Wykeham, and Miss Charlotte Mead is good as Mrs. Cropper. The one-act play, *Judged by Appearances*, precedes, and meets with approval.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Mouillot's répertoire company commenced their second week's engagement here on Monday, when the musical comedy, *The Runaway Girl*, was performed. Miss Ethel Netherton, in the rôle of Winifred Grey, was charming, rendering her vocal numbers in a manner which won for her hearty applause. Flipper, as depicted by Mr. Howard Cridland, was a clever and humorous performance, and Mr. Alfred C. Sandoe's impersonation of Professor Tamarind was a distinct success. Miss May Frederika was extremely good as Alice, her dancing being greatly admired. The rôle of Guy Stanley was played in a satisfactory manner by Mr. Leslie Zaze. Miss Marie Shields gave a capital study of the rôle of Carmenita, and Leonella was adequately played by Mr. G. Clifton Yates.

Empire Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur S. Figgis.—The principal feature here this week is Mr. Hugh Stanton's company in the laughable sketch, *Bargain Mad*. Mark Leslie's coon songs and dances have caught on, and Nellie Vanderbilt, comedienne and dancer, is favourably received. The musical turn of Signor and Madame Borelli is much admired, and Ian Colquhoun is an excellent baritone vocalist. Paul Courtney and company's sketch meets with appreciation, and G. W. Foster is a smart eccentric comedian. Delmore and Wilson, character comedians, are highly successful, and Clarke and Argyle, international dancers, are doing well. Drew and Alders, acrobatic comedians, are warmly received; Milner Verren, tenor vocalist, who remains from last week, is still to the fore; and the Empire pictures are as interesting as ever.

Tivoli.—General Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here this week are the Brothers Permane, in their eccentric act, *The Nightingale's Courtship*, which meets with a cordial reception. Johnny Holland and Co., in their farcical absurdity, *My Friend Boots*, are highly amusing, and Nancy St. John is a chic comedienne and dancer. The Vance Brothers, comedy instrumentalists, achieve success, as does also Arthur Aldridge, tenor vocalist. The Cranks are capital comedy cyclists, and Maudie Ford is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Alex. Lukos, in "Songs that are Sung," merits applause, and the Zaids' Moorish speciality act, and the Three San Remo Girls are both good in their respective turns.

Samuels' Exhibition Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here includes The Singing Trunk, ballad vocalist; Bret Ward, Lilliputian marionettes; Dromis, musical jester; Miss Eily O'Mara, serio; George Harcourt, tenor; Tilly Wood, male impersonator; Madame Le Strange, hypnotist; and Sheelah, palmist.

World's Fair and Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artistes are appearing here:—Madame Melrose, ballad vocalist; C. H. Nelson, comedian and dancer; Fergus Volanti, comedian and mimic; France Kimball, vocalist and instrumentalist; Lucy Moore, the American giantess; and Harry Scott, pianist and vocalist.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Howard Webb's company in *The Convent Bell*, by Augusta Tullock, is here this week for the first time. Mr. Stanley Carlton, as Philip Vautier, acts with power, and has a good voice; Mr. Oliver Birrell, as Henry Cassella, is a convincing villain; Mr. Teddy Miles is amusing as Jean, as also is Mr. Howell Webb as Pickle Pods. Miss Florrie Manderville, a pretty and pert Susette, sings some good songs; and Miss Trissie Humphries as Christine Valgrave and Miss Ruby Maude as Marguerite Courier are well placed.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom Prichard.—A strong programme is headed by the Leopolds, who give a clever acrobatic performance; George Leyton, in his military scena, is very well received; the Mayvilles, Liliputian novelty artistes, are great favourites; Shawlene, mimic and sufficur, is as successful as ever; Stern and Stern, acrobatic dancers, give a novel turn; Dan Noble, comedian, has some amusing songs; and Alice Yorke, comedienne and dancer, is good.

DUMFRIES.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—For three nights, commencing Monday, we have Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company in the Irish musical play, *The Wearin' o' The Green*. Mr. Mackey as Barney O'Hea is very clever, causing much laughter. Mr. Chalmers Homer is good as Shamus M'Dermott. Mrs. Chalmers Mackey takes the part of Norah McGarth in a realistic manner, and Miss Lalla Stanhope gives a fine impersonation of Biddy McGinn.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; General-Manager, Mr. Sandon Perkins.—Mr. John Leopold's company of comedians are here this week with their laughter-provoking extravaganza, *The New Frivolity*. The interest of the audience is kept up by a succession of mirthful incidents, embellished by some clever dancing and songs. The Leopolds' business in the acrobatic line is really wonderful, the garden scene with the living statues being successful in arousing the greatest merriment on the part of the audience.

Gaiety Theatre.—Mr. R. A. P. Williams has taken a six weeks' lease of this theatre, and again produced his pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, which was so successful in Dundee some time ago.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—A drama of great interest, entitled *The Black Mask*, is here, and is played by Mr. Clifford Wright's company. Mr. Wright is seen to advantage as Dr. Blackmore; Mr. Geo. Hunter as The Black Mask gives a very fine impersonation; Philip Cunningham is the part played by Mr. J. H. Harvie; and the rôle of Philip's servant is assumed by Mr. Donald Stewart. Miss Georgina Thomas gives a sympathetic rendering as Nellie Cunningham; and Miss Ethel Denville is a capital Philip Le Noir. Mr. Fred Cherry fills in the comedy work with great gusto.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Alf. Ross.—The top of the bill is assigned to that old favourite, Johnny Alexander and company; their sketches are well-known in Dundee, and never fail to arouse great interest. The Du Gros Trio, speciality acrobats, put in some clever work. Kyoto, the comical Jap, scores as a conjurer and juggler; Will Sergeant and George Foyie are successful as comedy merchants; and May Geraldine, comedienne, does very well. Rice, Rose, Davis, and the half, are again to the fore with some comedy sketches; and Miss Chummie La Mara sings well. The cinématograph pictures are favourably received.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. J. H. Clynde's company is appearing here this week in the high-class romantic play, *A Royal Revenge*. In the parts of Estaven Alvarez and Pedro de Castro, Mr. Clyndes proves himself to be an actor of no mean order. Mr. James Willoughby gives a good representation of Nicholas Vargas; Mr. Charles Jordan is successful as Manuel Mondega. The comedy element is capably portrayed by Mr. Harry Thorpe, as Michael Sancha, and he is cleverly and ably supported by Miss Zoe Coe, as Paquita Mercelly. Mr. Fred Rivers is good as the Moor and Count Ulric Uzeda. Mr. Geoffrey Broughton is a gay and dashing King of Spain; Mr. Richard Webb does well as Friar Dominic; and Miss Bessie Elma gives a feeling rendering of the parts of Inez Alvarez and Angela. The rôle of the gipsy dancing girl, Cora Casilda, is well filled by Miss Aimee Grattan, and Mother Maria Teresa is ably portrayed by Miss Lizzie Lennon.

EASTBOURNE.—Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes. Mr. J. D. Hunter and company are paying a visit here in *Aladdin*. Miss M. Sadie is a pretty-figured Aladdin, and her bright work makes her a great favourite; Miss Elsa Brull is a charming Princess Balbroubador, her refined singing and manner being very pleasing; Miss Renée Ashley is a capital Pekoe; and Miss Ivy Bolton a captivating Nicey. The Misses McQueen contribute effective songs; and the Verona Quartette are agile dancers. As a comedian, Mr. J. D. Hunter is a very droll Widow Twankey; Mr. Dick Tubb, as the Vizier, proves a prolific source of laughter; and Mr. Victor Vernon is very funny as Abanazar. Mr. Fred Boulton sings well, as the Emperor; and Mr. Ben Stoddart and Mr. George Alderman, as Wisher and Washer, supply a good proportion of fun. Mdlle. Bartenelli is a fine contortionist.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Mr. Sam Mayo again heads the bill here, and again he is conspicuously successful in his songs and style; Morris and Morris supply a good trapeze act; Stell and Laing are on a successful return visit; the Three Sherrys are clever acrobats; Mr. Fred Spencer, a local favourite, scores with his songs and patter; Prince Kuroki is a skilful juggler; Miss Marie Gibson contributes good ballads; and Mr. Sid Bandon does well as a comedian. A new series of Hippodrome pictures completes the bill.

ECCLES.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Potasch and Wardle; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Ryan-Smith.—After a successful week of grand opera, we have a change in the visit of Mr. Leigh Lovel's company, in *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley, who figures in the title-rôle, plays with artistic skill; Mr. Lovel is amusing as the eccentric Pitt-Welby, M.P.; and one can scarcely expect a better portrayal of the part of Lady Henrietta than that given by Miss Octavia Kenmore. Miss Naomi Neilson is clever as Mrs. Mullholland. *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, played by Mr. H. Douglas Cottell and Miss Helen Tytler, makes an effective curtain-raiser.

EDINBURGH.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Hollister.—*Joseph Entangled* was presented here on Monday by Mr. Lawrence Grant and Mr. Malcolm Barrington's company. The part of Sir Joseph Lacy was assumed by Mr. Lawrence Grant with complete success, his polished acting and natural bearing being eminently suited to the character. As Hardolph Mayne, Mr. Hugh Ardale gave a capital rendering of the jealous husband, and the lines which fall to Jermyn Pyecroft were spoken with excellent effect by Mr. C. Leveson Lane. Harry Tavender was quite a creation in the hands of Mr. Frank H. Denton, who gave a perfect picture of the idiotic dude; Mr. Arthur Bell was good as Gerald Fanmere, as was Mr. Everard Digby as Professor Tofield; Messrs. Guy Lane and W. F. Fletcher presenting lifelike studies as Knapman and Staddon respectively. Mrs. Mouillot invested the part of Lady Verona with particular charm. Miss Evelyn Maxwell was admirable as Mrs. Tavender, while Miss Claire Cavendish, as Mrs. Knapman, and Miss Rosalind Ivan, as Lady Fanmere, were well suited. *Joseph Entangled* was followed by the Russo-Japanese play, entitled *Heart of Gold*, in which Mr. Lawrence Grant and Mrs. Mouillot took part.

Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr. G. T. Minshull.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Orchid*, has paid a welcome return visit here, a large audience assembling on Monday to enjoy this popular Gaiety play, its attractiveness enhanced by gorgeous new dresses and some fresh and catchy songs. Mr. George Gregory appeared as Meakin, and kept the audience in the highest spirits by his drolleries; the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour had a first-class representative in Mr. Charles Brown; Mr. Donald Hall was a cheery Dr. Fausset; and Mr. Chesterton was impersonated with marked skill by Mr. Ellis Ogilvie. As Zaccary, Mr. E. W. Coleman soon danced himself into the good graces of the audience; Mr. Clifford Seyler was sufficiently fierce as the fire-eating French count; Messrs. E. G. Woodhouse and E. Rutland appearing as his seconds. As Lady Violet Anstruther, Miss Rita Everard sang and danced with charm, her "Little Mary" ditty winning many encores; Miss Gertrude Gilliam fulfilled the demands of the part of Josephine, and Miss Amy Payne was a delightful Thisbe, her dancing being a feature of the evening. Miss Irene Verona was a buxom Caroline displaying high qualities as a comedienne; Miss Katie Leechman was a dignified Countess; and Miss Ethel Griffies as piquant Zelie Rumbert.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Eade Montefiore.—The popular melodrama, *The Bells of Haslemere*, succeeds the reign of pantomime here, and has been received nightly with favour. Mr. Charles A. Chandler appears as Captain Vere, and the part of the suave adventurer loses nothing in his hands, the humorous side being cleverly emphasised. Mr. Leonard Yorke is admirable as the Squire of Haslemere; Mr. T. E. Evans is good as Robert Claverdale, the wicked financier; and Mr. Charles Cecil appeals to the audience strongly as the honest village blacksmith. Miss Stafford Smith, Miss Florence Chandler, Miss Henrietta Polini, and Miss Mary Hardacre sustain the female interest with ability.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll—Mr. Harry Tate, in his laughable sketch, *Motoring*, has appeared this week with success. Virto and Irene, the versatile instrumentalists, present a clever musical entertainment; Grell and Gray, in *Bertie's First Lesson*, give a novel display of acrobatic feats; the Five Julians dance neatly, and are possessed of sweet voices; George Ridgwell, baritone, sings with effect; the Four Macgoverns are smart acrobatic dancers; the Knick-Knacks, duettists and dancers, also appearing, and the American Bioscope being shown. *Saturday to Monday* has been a great draw in its second week, Fred Karno's comedians making matters merry.

Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Tom Ellis.—The evergreen *My Sweetheart* has proved its power to attract this week, Miss Clarice Jenner playing the part of Tina brightly, and Mr. Will Oswald making a melodious Tony.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*An Abandoned Woman* is being presented here this week by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. Miss Edith Blande, in the name part, acts with power and ability; Captain Herbert Seaton is capably portrayed by Mr. Harry Hilla; as Phillip Malvoisin Mr. Charles Vivian submits a careful delineation; Mr. Harry Foxwell does well as Robert Saunders; and Messrs. Harrop and Delaforce, as Sammy Charp and Paddy Boyle respectively, cater well for the humorous side of the piece. Miss Sheila Walsh, as Eleanor Dean, is favourably received, and Miss Alice Ramsdale is successful as Sally Sloper.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Joseph Poole's myriorama opened here this week. The Veronas are a clever pair of dancers; Miss May Finch contributes some charming songs; Felix Somers, the Facial King, gives excellent impersonations of celebrities, past and present; the Marvellous Hobarts, expert trick and comedy cyclists, are capital; and Mdlle. Orbasany, with her wonderful troupe of performing cockatoos, completes a most enjoyable programme.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jack Cromo.—Mr. Julian Malvern's company is here, in the powerful drama entitled *I Defy the World*. Mr. Ray Fortescue gives a powerful rendering of Leon Darville; Mr. Richard Vane brings out the villainous characteristics of the Count de Beaulieu to the letter; and he is well-supported by Mr. Charles Conway as Laroche. Miss St. Albans gives an excellent portrayal of Pauline; and Miss Maud Malvern is good as Blanche. Mr. H. Creagh Hunt satisfactorily represents the young artist. Mr. Chas. M. Julian and Miss Lillah Shelton supply the comic element.

GATESHEAD.—Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Russell.—The sporting drama, *Bound to Win*, is an attraction that has brought crowded audiences to this theatre during the week. Mr. F. G. Kimberley makes a first-rate Harry Lyndon; and, as Squire Forbes, Mr. Sydney Rennef displays some good acting. Miss Lottie Addison (Mrs. F. G. Kimberley) acts charmingly in the character of Marion Forbes; and, in the rôle of the heartless woman, Miss Kathleen Eckhart shows distinct talent.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. France.—In an entertaining variety programme which has drawn good houses, D'Artigan, in his looping the loop act, takes pride of place; the Waldrons, in a sketch entitled *The Silly Burglar*, create much amusement; and the Boris Fridkin Troupe provide a good singing and acrobatic turn. Alex. Gay, the bricklayer conjuror, is responsible for a taking show; while J. H. Milburn, the veteran local comedian, provides a good turn. Vera Mayne, burlesque actress, May Tyler, comedienne and dancer, Joe Humphreys, comedian, and Sandy and Carl, comedians, are all responsible for smart turns.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—The Moody-Manners Opera company is occupying the boards here for a fortnight. The company gave a remarkably even and well-balanced performance of *Tannhauser* on Monday, under the conductorship of Herr Richard Eckhold. Mr. Joseph O'Mara appeared in the title part, and sang and acted throughout with the true Wagnerian fervour. The Elizabeth of the cast was Madame de Vere, who received the heartiest applause for her brilliant singing in the second act. The part of Venus was also filled with conspicuous success, Miss Toni Seiter bringing out all the vocal and dramatic possibilities of the character. Mr. Charles Magrath was once more seen in the part of the Landgrave, for which he is so eminently suited; and as Wolfram, the sound mellow voice of Mr. William Dever was heard to advantage. The other minstrels, Biterolf, Henrich, Reinmar, and Walther, were well represented by Messrs. F. H. Erle, T. C. Fairbairn, J. Alexander, and N. Davidson respectively, while the music allotted to the Shepherd Boy was sweetly rendered by Miss Toni Seiter. Considerable interest attaches to the revival of *La Favorita*, which has not been played here for many years.

Royalty, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson, with their Shakespearian company, are filling a week's engagement here, and opened on Monday with that lesser-known play of Shakespeare's, *Richard the Second*. Mr. Benson again gave an artistic and finished performance of the part of that weak and vacillating monarch, and was accorded very hearty recalls, after the abdication and prison scenes particularly. Mr. Arthur Whitby, as Henry of Bolingbroke, afterwards King Henry IV., also gave a fine representation, his fire and vigour in the accusations against Mowbray being excellent, and his quieter scenes as the King were, in their way, equally good. Mr. Cyril Keightley, as Mowbray, bore himself well, and fully shared the honours of the quarrel scenes referred to. Mr. H. A. Pittar as John of Guant, and Mr. H. O. Nicholson as the Duke of York, were well suited as these old noblemen, and gave their lines with fine declamatory effect. Mr. George R. Weir was, unfortunately, only on in one short act, as the Gardener. Miss Gertrude Scott gave a pathetic rendering of the unfortunate Queen, and Miss Mabel Moore was also good as the widowed Duchess of Gloucester. Mr. Philip Sanders as the Duke of Northumberland, Mr. Clarence Derwent as Hotspur, Mr. Percy D. Owen as the Bishop of Carlisle, Mr. G. T. Hannam-Clark as the Marshal, and Messrs. Davis and Percy as the Heralds, all lent able support. Miss Cissie Saumarez sang several songs incidental to the play. The scenery and appointments were specially good. For the other evenings *Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Hamlet*, and *Macbeth*, formed the programme.

King's Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company are here again on a return visit within four months, and are being welcomed nightly by large and fashionable audiences. Their stay extends over two weeks, the first play presented being *The Breed of the Treshams*, in which Mr. Harvey enacts the swash-buckling hero, Lieut. Keresby. In this part the varying phases of a complicated character are wonderfully brought out. Miss N. de Silva gives a dashing rendering of Batty, the soldier boy. Miss Coleridge, as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, interprets the part in a satisfactory manner, and the same may be said of Miss Edith Coleman as Mrs. Bagshaw, and Miss Bessie Elder as Helena Pierrepoint. Mr. Percy Anstey as Cornet, the Hon. Francis Tresham gives a pleasant representation of the rashly brave young soldier. Picturesque military figures are those of Mr. Reeve Denbigh as Captain Stanhope, Mr. A. Mansfield as Captain Rashleigh, and Mr. Arthur Maude as Cornet Kit Peyton, who all depict their characters to satisfaction. The somewhat unamiable part of Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford, is ably handled by Mr. Charles Glenney. The older soldiers are finely acted by Mr. Charles J. Cameron as Viscount Dorsington, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., as Colonel Bagshaw, and Mr. Albert E. Rayner as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen. During the second week *The Only Way* is announced for presentation.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction presented to south-side play-goers this week is Charles Frohman's company in the celebrated play, *Sherlock Holmes*, which drew together a large and interested audience on the opening night. As Sherlock Holmes Mr. H. A. Saintsbury proved admirably adapted to the character; and an equally fitting representative of Professor Moriarty was found in Mr. W. F. Stirling.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A strong attraction has been secured here in the Osmond Searle company, under the direction of Mr. Herbert J. Montague. On Monday *The Bells* was presented. Mr. Walter Bentley, as Mathias, was heartily applauded for his clever performance. Miss Lillian Herries's assumption of Annette was received with approbation, and Mrs. Vivian Gilbert did good work as Christian. Commendable also was the Catherine of Miss Fannie Chamberlain, and the Sozel of Miss Ruth Nightingale. Mr. William Lowe (Father Walter) and Mr. Philip Gordon (Hans), acquitted themselves well. The above drama was followed by the Scottish play, *Cramond Brig*, in which Mr. Walter Bentley gave a fine representation of Jock Howieson; Mr. Fred Sargent played well as King James. During the week *Hamlet*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *As You Like It*, were staged, the performance of the *Merchant of Venice* on Wednesday being under the special patronage of the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart., and under the ægis of the Shakespearian and Literary Societies.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Dunbar.—*Otto the Outcast*, a play well known in this city, is being reproduced here this week by Mr. Harry Starr, with a company of all-round excellence. A charming heroine is found in Miss Queenie Frazer-Brunner; Mr. Richard Harris, as Vidocq, submits a highly successful impersonation; and Mr. William Miller scores as the sordid Daddy Bruneau. Mr. Max Coutts, as the Marquis, acts with the requisite vigour and smartness, and Miss Rita Rosslyn converts La Spirituelle into an object worthy of sympathy and pity. The comic interludes throughout the piece are well looked after by Mr. J. Turner and Miss Edna Lester.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Oakden.—Mr. Leslie Vyner's company is the attraction at this house in the musical melodrama, *The Lightning's Flash*, a stirring piece in four acts. In the dual parts of Stephen Merrick and Col. Mark Merrick, considerable dramatic ability is displayed by Mr. Lionel Robson, whose fine impersonations are most acceptable. Mr. S. Kearns, as Gordon Granville, makes much of an interesting part; and Jim Bargess is a capital study by Mr. Will Harradine. As Selina Slack Miss Blanche Vermeen ably sustains a clever rôle, and Zuzu is well placed in the hands of Miss Eva Chad. A special word of praise is due to Miss F. Russell Spiers for a fine portrayal of the part of Kate Merrick.

Empire, Limited.—District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Aldin.—Leon Morris' ponies give a clever display, and show great intelligence; Clown Zertho's dogs provide another good animal turn; James's Strolling Players contribute a well worked-up scena; W. F. Frame is on his native heath again, and making things lively with his latest ditties; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, show great dexterity under their disadvantages; Albert Whelan, the Australian mimic, is a popular favourite; Lily Langtry, as lively as ever, has several new songs in her familiar style; Belle Davis and her piccaninnies take well in their coon songs and dances; Carlo and Maie, in their wire act; Fred Neiman, ventriloquist; and George Antill, comedian, complete the bill.

Queen's and Tivoli.—Proprietors, Colquhoun and Armstrong, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. S. King Alexander.—Miss Daisy Dormer repeats her pantomime successes here and is encored nightly; Bendon's Bioscope is still a pleasing interlude; Clyo and Rochelle give a laughable sketch; Annie Laurie pleases greatly as a comedienne and dancer; and comedy is further well illustrated by the Brandons. Shean, Fox, and Shean, appear to advantage in *The Old Sport*, and we have further variety by the Breton Troupe in the *Tramp's Picnic*, while at the Queen's they add to their versatility by another sketch, entitled *Three in a Bed*. Very clever turns are given by Harry Leader and Keir and Allan, comedians, and Fred Clements scores with them in business of the comedian order; Vandenoff, the lightning artist, imparts variety, as do Cordite and Buffalo in a rope spinning and other athletic items, which meet with considerable acceptance. The Bros. Esdale patter and sing; and the Matthews, as eccentric visitors, further the enjoyment of the patrons. The Toy Trio have a good share in what is undoubtedly a bill of exceptional interest.

Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rich. Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. McKelvie.—The most popular turn here is undoubtedly the cleverly written little play, *A Bachelor's Dream*, as played by May Edouin and Fred Edwards, the various impersonations by the lady being specially well done. Bock Pylades repeats his well-known presentments of famous people; Sisters Marion, two pretty and smart young vocalists, make a big hit; Reilby and Taylor give an amusing Dutch comedy turn; Mons. Stylo shows marvellous dexterity with the hoops; V. J. de Hendu is again seen in his astounding feats of painting, &c., with the toes; Mdlle. Aladina's cockatoos show skilful training; Juno Salmo, as a contortionist, is extremely clever, and his scene is picturesquely set; Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne; Fred Curran, an amusing comedian; and Whit Cunliffe complete a good programme.

Britannia.—Lessee, Mr. James Anderson; Manager, Mr. Harry Homfrey.—A good variety company is booked here this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of Alec Kendal, comedian, who is heard to much advantage in several up-to-date songs; the Rushforths contribute well-known songs, with illustrations; and a clever ventriloquial entertainment is given by King Leo. Billy Hall, the singing goalkeeper, has a great reception; Tom and Florrie Poole are clever burlesque artistes and dancers; and the Glen-Lawrence Combination provides a good comedy sketch. The other members of the company include Dane Howard, comedian; Bill Walters, minstrel; and Jack Neil, comedian.

Harmonic Concerts.—Musical Secretary, Mr. Wm. Biggam.—Austin Rudd, the favourite eccentric comedian, is the bright star of this week's company, and proves a big favourite; Bob Nicol, imitator of music hall stars, is a clever performer; Cissy Arris is a smart dancer, and a singer of ability; J. H. Harris retains his strong hold of local audiences; and Scott Rae, Esther Hood, Tom Jack, Bob Sloan, Sisters Ross, and J. C. Maclean also contribute.

GLOUCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. W. H. Weller.—Miss Emma Litchfield and company (under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland) in *A London Actress*, are here this week. Mr. Cleveland acts in powerful style as Sergeant-Major Clive Crawford, and Lieutenant Kingston, R.N., has a manly representative in Mr. Louis Lingard. Miss Eva Bertram wins the sympathies of her audience by her clever acting as Phyllis Crawford; Miss Emma Litchfield, as the evil Hilda Mannering, is entitled to high praise; Mr. Geo. H. Doyle is an excellent Captain Mannering; and Mr. George Wallace enacts Moses Mendoza in approved style. Mr. Sam Wilford as Pat Maloney introduces acceptable comedy and songs. Miss Violet Vivian also ably assists in this direction as Biddy Maloney. Mr. C. E. Young has some good lines, that are well delivered as the Policeman; and Mrs. Skinner is well placed in the hands of Miss Theodora Henries. Mr. Alfred Gregory is good as Jim Burrows; and Miss Maud Saxby does well as Nellie.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Tomlinson.—Mr. Alfred Maurice and company opened here on Monday with *A Wrecker of Men*. In the difficult rôle of Risca Mallinson Miss Rose Salisbury plays with successful results; as Doris Melville Miss Alice De Lacy acts with grace and charm; and Miss Kitty Melville is highly amusing as Vavasole Slopper. Mr. J. Crondace is a capital Isaacs; Mr. Alfred Maurice plays with manly vigour the part of Guise Strange; Mr. W. F. Travers gives a powerful portrayal of Jim Murley; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy is forcible as Railton; Pharosaphus is characteristically depicted by Mr. John B. Murry; and Mr. Arthur Cresswell as the Hon Reggie Verincourt, and Mr. Allan Edwards as Eric Melville, are also conspicuously successful.

GRAVESEND.—New Public Hall and Theatre.—Secretary, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke. Mr. Charles Macdona's *A Chinese Honeymoon* company, under the management of Mr. G. W. Woodward, appeared here on Monday evening. Mr. Steane Louch as Hang Chow, the Emperor, was first-class; whilst Mr. Louis Ashmeade and Mr. Maxwell Stewart, as the Lord Chancellor and Admiral respectively, did well. Mr. Arthur Foote as Tom Hatherton was good, and Mr. Sidney Burt as Mr. Pineapple kept the audience amused. The Mrs. Pineapple of Miss Alicia Norton was full of vivacity, and the bridesmaids were well sustained by Miss Dasie Dale and Miss Marie Ford. As Mrs. Brown, the official mother-in-law, Miss Dulcie Garland was decidedly droll, and as Soo Soo Miss Florence Hallam sang prettily. Miss Ettie Cinders as Fi Fi kept the house in continual roars of laughter.

Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. David Hart.—There is a capital company here this week. Nancy Chard, comedienne, is bright and sparkling; the Donnells, comedy artists, are amusing; Jack Charman is an extremely popular vocalist; the Continental Stilt Walkers prove a very good turn; Florence Schubert is a versatile burlesque artist; Pueblo Brothers, comedians and expert dancers, are well received; and the Pender Troupe of Pantomimists, in their laughable absurdity, *Hands Up*, are irresistibly funny. The Edisonograph continues to interest and amuse.

GREAT GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. Tolfree.—Sydney Grundy's adaptation of Justus Miles Forman's novel, *The Garden of Lies*, has been presented here this week. The central figure is one Denis Mallory, and Mr. Henry Renouf portrays the varying emotions of the absinthe soddened soldier of fortune, whom pure love reclaims, in masterly fashion. Miss Miriam Lewes is equally good as the Princess Eleanor, and with Mr. Renouf is responsible for more than one scene of exceptional interest. Mr. George Silver is satisfactory as Prince Carol; whilst as his patriotic minister, Colonel Von Altdorf, Mr Felix Pitt admirably realises all requirements. Mr. Harry J. Crane imparts much quiet humour to the character of the Scottish doctor, Sir Gavin Macalister, and good work is also accomplished by Mr. Francis Hawley as Creighton, and Miss Margaret Montrose as Jessica Mannering.

New Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Steuart Cecil.—The four dark turns, a quartette of artists from the *In Dahomey* company, have delighted the Palace audiences this week with their songs and general business. The Four Malsonas are another troupe of entertaining artists. They have a musical speciality, which is carried through in an amusingly eccentric manner. Mdlle. Flora Lumiere's fairy grotto provides a pretty spectacle, and some charming dancing is introduced. Jack Pleasants is a comedian of striking originality; whilst L. B. Athol also contributes a comic element to the programme. A bright little comedy, *A Bit of String*, is presented by the Harris L. Bell and Lilly Pearl company. Swimming feats of a novel character are accomplished by Dickinson and Johnson, and other good turns are given by Sinclair and Parr, actor vocalists, and Millie Howell, comedienne.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Baker.—The performance of Leveta has much mystified the Hippodrome patrons. Besides a display of skill in thought-reading, she floats in mid-air without any apparent support. Charles Deane, the well-known comedian, has contributed his latest songs, which have been much appreciated. Some entertaining illusions have been presented by Fred Harcourt. Smart trapeze work has been achieved by Sibb and Sibb, and a grotesque acrobatic performance was given by Eugene and Willie. Lillian Warren gave p

Russell, comediennes, and Grace Merton, the sweet-voiced "street singer," add greatly to their popularity; Kit Keene is an expert bone manipulator; some interesting pictures are shown on Burns' Bioscope; and a selection from *Daughter of the Regiment* is played by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Dobing, is an enjoyable item.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. George H. Gaze.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company, in *Three Little Maids*, provides excellent entertainment here this week. The three Branscombe girls were presented in a most attractive manner respectively by Miss Elsa Brettingham (Ada), Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald (Hilda), and Miss Shelley Calton (Edna). Miss Maud Shelton, as Lady St. Mallory, acted with distinction. Miss Laura Wright was amusing as Gretchen, and was ably assisted by Mr. Gus Oxley, as Cupid, their dancing winning a double recall. Mr. Arthur Longley was cleverly droll as Lord Cheyne, and the Rev. Mr. Branscombe was well impersonated by Mr. C. Leverton. Able support was accorded by the Misses R. Narcelli, C. Gordon, and M. Jay (Lady Mallory's protégées), Miss Phyllis Castleton (Miss Price), Mr. Frank Lincoln, as Brian Molyneux, and Mr. Alex. Chentrens, as M. de l'Orme.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Henry Hare and company are appearing here this week in *The Girl from Chicago*. The piece abounds in rollicking fun. Ananias Hussell, an American lawyer, is a capital character sketch by Mr. Buckston Clair; Billy is well taken by Mr. Edwin Dobbs. Mr. Henry Hare gives a manly interpretation of General Boomer, the millionaire; and Mr. Harry Butler comes out well as the dude Percy. Mr. C. Ibbotson is very convincing as a temperance reformer. Equally successful is Mr. J. Jones as Slappit, the painter. Miss Cissie Hilton, as Mrs. Sweetlove, makes a charming housekeeper; Miss Nellie Vicott throws in many natural touches as the sprightly old maid; and Miss Lily Beverley gives an excellent representation of Flora Bloomer.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harold Penny.—Miss Maud Nichols, an attractive comedienne, opens an excellent programme here. The Woellhafs (Fred and Marie) afford a most amusing turn; Miss May Moodie is a talented piccolo soloist; the patter purveyors, Messrs. Walker and Lake, are decidedly clever; Miss Mill May is a juvenile artiste of ability; Francisco is an extraordinary equilibrist; the female athletes, the Gasch Sisters, receive great applause; Mr. Montague Biggs, vocalist, is a great success; and Miss Maggie Duggan, vocalist, is another well appreciated turn. The new Bioscope films are very attractive.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; General-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—Miss Ina Rozant's company in *The Designers* is the attraction here. This bright farcial comedy keeps the audience in continual laughter. Mr. W. Hargreaves, as Huggins, is most mirth provoking, and is the life of the piece; he has a good second in Mr. Arthur Dennis as Percy Loraine. Mr. William Luff plays Wilfred Fry to the life; Mr. E. O'Grady is deserving of the highest praise for his rendering of the part of Mr. Currie; Mr. Frank Lester is amusing as Taddlebury. Miss Ina Rozant as Rachel Huggins and Miss Dorothy Sidney as Mabel afford genuine enjoyment, and Rouche is cleverly sketched by Mr. Herbert Lloyd.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy G. Arthur.—Mr. John Hart and company are here with *The Blanchard Diamonds*. As Nat Stearn, Mr. Albert Ward plays with pleasant heartiness. Ruth Tregellis is forcibly presented by Miss Maud Hildyard; Mr. Edmund D. Kennedy adequately plays Eric Blanchard; and Miss May Congdon is sweetly confiding as May Sherringham, the heiress. Perhaps the finest bit of character work in the whole piece is done by Mr. Edward Rochelle, as Joe Tregellis, and later as Downe, the auctioneer. Mr. Benson North is cool and incisive as the villain Croall. Miss Julie Kennard does well as Lady Blanchard. There is some excellent humour provided by Mr. Joe Rowland, as Gammidge, and Mrs. Richard Edgar, as Mrs. Gossett. Mr. Lancelot Usher is airy and amusing as Pullifer, Mr. Walter Russell adequate as Sir John Blanchard, and Mr. Joseph Hudson and Miss Nellie Dallas amusing as Jerry and Phœbe.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Tree's company in the *Tempest* is here.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Levilly's company in *La Poupée* is paying one of its numerous return visits, and is meeting with the popularity so well deserved. Mr. Eric Thorne is a capital Hilarius, and one wonders what the rôle would be like without him in it. Nothing could be better than Miss Stella Gastelle's Alesia, of which in this city the pleasantest memories are retained. Mr. F. Hobbs sings with care the music allotted to Maxime. The opera is magnificently mounted, and the chorus is capable.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—MORTON, LTD.—Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*A Disgrace to her Sex* is a play preminently fitted for the patrons of the Alexandra, having just the amount of requisite interest to carry the audience with it. As Hilda, Miss Stella Leigh fills a difficult rôle with much acumen; and Mr. Clinton Baddeley is a capable Jules.

PALACE THEATRE.—Stoll's Empire, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Graham.—Gipsy Woolf is an artist who is ever popular in Hull. The piece de resistance is the Karnos in *The Mumming Birds*.

THE PALACE.—Fred Karno's *Mumming Birds* is proving a source of endless hilarity here. Gipsy Woolf, and six young ladies, are popular in a scena, *A Romany Encampment*, in which some clever dances are given; Cora Caselli makes a welcome re-appearance in a Spanish song, with national dance; Flo Challis sings a couple of songs with admirable taste; and Collins and Rice, the Three Sisters Hayden, Zaro and Arno, and the Howards, complete a good bill.

THE BIJOU.—Lessee, Mr. T. N. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Fred Thorne.—The Zerbinis troupe introduce a gorgeous electrical scena, entitled *In Fairyland;* Florry Claribell stays on a second week; Ailsa Douglas is a tuneful soprano vocalist; Florence Gwynne extracts much fun from a musical sketch; and others contributing are Gus Dallon, Oakdene, Harry Nation, and Angelene.

THE CIRCUS.—General-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—The Grand Circus company is hitting the public taste here; Paul Courto is a big favourite; and other good turns include James Heary, in a trick act; Prof. Buer Irving, equilbrist; Prince Ishmael; Miss Pinders, musical vocalist; and Chevalier Crowther.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr. Joseph W. Maloney.—Mr. Arthur Hart's *My Lady Molly* company is attracting large and appreciative audiences here this week. Miss Reydon Dallas gives an admirable impersonation of Lady Molly Martingale, and displays pleasing vocalisation; Miss Enid Alexander is a winsome and charming Alice Coverdale; the rôles of Hester and Mdlle. Mirabeau are capitally sustained by the Misses Annie West and Belle Gray; Captain Harry Romney is ably impersonated by Mr. Reginald Cooper; and Mr. Herbert Ranson is well placed as Lionel Bland; Mr. H. Walsh affords unbounded fun as Mickey O'Dowd; and Messrs. Gordon Begg, Joseph Tipler, and F. Dornan are capital exponents of Sir Miles Coverdale, Reuben Oates, and Judge Romney respectively.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers; Musical-Director, Mr. C. Keith Smith.—*The Fatal Wedding* is being played here this week by the company of Mr. Bert Coote, under the general managership of Mr. Cecil Barth. The rôle of Howard Wilson is capably sustained by Mr. Lomath, and that of Mabel Wilson lacks nothing in the hands of Miss Eva Moss. Miss Emmie Thomas gives a pleasing performance as Jessie, the little mother. Mr. W. E. Chewd (Toto), Mr. T. W. Ford (Peter Schwartz), and Miss Maud Locker (Bridget), keep the house in a hilarious mood. Mr. Pascoe Biolette plays well as the evil genius Robert Curtis, and Miss Doris Gilham evinces skill and subtlety as Cora Williams.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. G. Fiske.—A new and attractive change was introduced this week by the presentation of a variety entertainment by Messrs. Murray King and Clark's company of artists, the programme being described as "The Palace Programme of Novelties." Hagedorn's wonderful grotto and fairy fountains produced a really pretty effect. Miss Dorothy Frostick proved herself a very accomplished and promising young dancer. Coon songs were contributed by Navahoe, the dainty little lady's dancing being received with unstinted applause. Miss Muriel Prin sang the evergreen "Killarney," and Mr. Percy Farrimond "The Singing Collier," in characteristic songs, evoked delighted plaudits. Mr. Murray King sang "The Wide, Wide World," and other humorous songs; some Japanese juggling by Mimosa San was gracefully performed; Mr. Warden Reed and Miss Dora Glennie gave a character sketch; and Mr. Robert Ganthony gave his diverting entertainment.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Fred Barrett.—Mr. Austin Rudd made his first appearance here on Monday, and gave some amusing parodies on popular songs, receiving a great ovation. Other turns comprised Kopski, a clever pianist and composer; Will Ivor, tenor vocalist, in his second week; Eno, in imitations of London comedians; Ernest, the card and billiard ball manipulator; Alexius and Arthurs in acrobatic bicycle performance; and the Sisters D'Alvo, vocalists and dancers.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here this week with the drama entitled *The Convict's Daughter*. Mr. J. W. Wilkinson gives a capital rendering of Michael Graham, and Mr. G. Moreton-Williams plays with force the part of Jasper Thorn. Mr. Adrian Lovett scores in the part of Harold Trevalyen. Mr. Douglas Tremayne gives a good account of Frank Harper. Mr. Alfred Terris is quite at home as Patrick Olaragan. Miss Nellie Clyde is a charming Edith; Miss Grace Harlington is good as Betty Hyne; and Miss M. Osmond wins favour as Marion Thorne. The rest of the parts are in very good hands.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. W Thompson; Manager, Mr. W. Childs.—The company here includes The Three Rickards, acrobats; dainty Daisy Devonport, comedienne and dancer; Gaertner and Weston, continental grotesque artistes; Hill, Barry, and Lang, in their latest success, *A Hot Reception;* Henderson, blind musician; Murphy and Blake, comedians; R. C. Note, swell vocalist; and Little Martha, juvenile vocalist and dancer.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. R. Perkins.—This week a bioscopic entertainment is being given, under the direction of Mr. Urban. The pictures are shown for the first time out of London, and special mention should be made of those taken by Mr. F. Martin Duncan, at the Zoological Gardens.

KENDAL.—ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Chorley; Manager, Mr. J. W. Butler.—Mr. Arthur Hart's company, with *My Lady Molly*, was here on the 17th and 18th inst. Miss Reydon Dallas fills the title-rôle with distinction; Mr. Reginald Cooper plays the dashing Captain Romney in effective style; and Mr. Gordon Begg is no less successful in his portrayal of Sir Miles. Miss Enid Alexander is charmingly captivating as Alice Coverdale, her acting and singing meeting with unqualified approval; and Mr. Herbert Ranson as Lionel Bland is deserving of praise. Mr. H. Walsh wins great favour by his clever work as the comical servant, Micky O'Dowd. The other characters are in able hands.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, including Mr. Augustine Knight as Lucas Delgado and Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet, in the sensational drama entitled *The Face at the Window*, is here. The two gentlemen above named are clever actors, who play their parts thoroughly well. Miss Marie Barrett as Marie de Brisson, and Miss Jeannie Dempster as La Pinau ably portray these characters.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—On Monday *A Trip to Reum Fum* was played under the direction of Miss Cissie Moxon. Special mention may be made of Mr. Fred Alberto, who scores as Leary O'Hooligan; Mr. Gyp Lester, who plays Biddy O'Hooligan in good style; Mr. Fred W. Graham, who is vastly amusing as Cecil Toft, the Cockney swell; Miss Cissie Moxon gives a realistic rendering of Florrie Kixie; Mr. Ernest Victor is droll as Bill Burley; Miss Ethel Rivers well fills her part of Angelina Toft, and Mr. T. Cook makes the most of his part as Sharp Scrivener.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hy. Wilkinson.—The attraction this week is Miss Olga Audré and company in *The Mockery of Marriage*, and *A Daughter of the Devil*, three nights being set apart for each play. The first was presented on Monday, Miss Olga Audré appearing as Alva Kenyon with distinct success. She was ably supported by an all-round company, and the scenic effects were excellent.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Miss Cissy Curlett, mimetic vocalist, heads the bill this week. Others who contribute include Wat Tyler, character vocalist; Nelson and Thomas, in a sketch, *On the Ra Ta;* Achilles, strong man; Flo Melville, comedienne; Will Dalton, comedian; Kavados, juggler; and Miss Nellie Gaylor, vocalist.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Girl from Kay's* is paying a visit here this week. Miss Elsie Mallory and Miss Emily Taylor play the principal female rôles of Winnie and Mrs. Gordon in charming style; Mr. Jack Durant acts and sings well as Gordon; and to Mr. Geo. Blunt, as Hoggenheimer, the piece owes much of its success.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The popularity of Gilbert and Sullivan opera has not diminished in the slightest degree, and the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with the D'Oyly Carte Company in these witty and tuneful works has been well appreciated. The opening on Monday was with the ever-popular *Mikado*, with many old favourites in the cast, notably Mr. C. H. Workman as Ko-Ko, Mr. Fred Billington as Pooh Bah, and Mr. Albert Kavanagh in the name part; and all three invested their parts with refreshing vigour and delightful humour. Mr. Pacie Ripple sings exceedingly well as Nanki Poo; Miss Norah Maguire was a captivating Yum Yum, and Miss Theresa Rassam gained favour for good work as Katisha. Miss Jessie Rose, Miss Alice Lisle, and Mr. Fred Drawater, also displayed excellent ability in minor rolès. *The Gondoliers, Yeomen of the Guard, Iolanthe*, and *H.M.S. Pinafore*, are included in the week's repertoire.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*On Circumstantial Evidence*, another interesting drama, is the fare at the Royal this week, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clifford's company is responsible for an excellent rendering. The hero, Jack Ogilvy, is played in manly and effected style by Mr. Claude Aymond. Mr. Clifford himself acts the villain's part with great success, whilst Miss Maud Camfield evidences considerable ability in the rôle of the injured man's wife. Mr. A. M. James and Miss Gladys Clifford are also successful in leading parts, whilst in the humorous rôle of Jeremiah Tobin Mr. Harry Cooke takes full advantage of his numerous opportunities.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The melodrama, *In Old Kentucky*, is doing good business here, and a thoroughly enjoyable performance is seen at the hands of Mr. J. F. Elliston's company. Miss Amy F. Hermann takes the part of Madge Brierley in attractive style. Mr. F. W. Freeman is thoroughly conversant with his part of Frank Harley, and the villainous Jasper Grafton has a capable exponent in Mr. E. Finlay.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. G. Mooney.—There is another strong programme in evidence here, headed by that popular artiste, Eugene Stratton, whose clever work nightly wins enthusiastic applause. Richard List's performing bears are a big attraction. Rich and Rich are a humorous and entertaining comedy couple. A farcical sketch by the Albert and Edmunds troupe is also a thoroughly enjoyable feature; and The Chamberlins score with a novel dexterous lasso throwing exhibition. Elsie Robey presents her comedy specialty at the piano with success. J. P. Dane is a comedian with a smart style. The Four Trees and Alma Grey give acceptable contributions of the song and dance variety; and H. F. Wilson, tenor vocalist, completes the bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs. Edgar O. Waller and Chas. Weldon.—That very entertaining quartette, The Harmony Four, are at the head of affairs here. Carl Nobel is responsible for a novel and expert ventriloquial turn. The popular comedian, John E. Coyle, with new songs, is again successful; George Barron and Reddick Anderson do well in a similar line; acrobatic exhibitions are the specialty of The Errolls and Cordua and Maude. Arthur Royd, an accomplished tenor vocalist, finds favour; and the Florodora Girls, vocalists and dancers, also contribute to a capital programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A sensational sketch, with the title of *Satan*, is the chief feature here, and it serves mainly to exploit Mr. Edward Sillward's realistic impersonation of a gorilla, the chief actor in the piece. The Bros. Narow find a ready approval for their clever comedy act. Coram, the ventriloquist, again brings a novel show; and Dale and O'Malley, comedians, are smart and entertaining; and the same remark applies to Will Driscoll, an old favourite. Juggling extraordinary is done by Primavesi; and a successful comedy act is the contribution of The St. Johns.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. M. Slater; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. D. Leigh.—Mr. George Dance's principal company is presenting in a delightful manner the successful musical play, *A Country Girl*, which is on a return visit. Mr. John Osborne makes a conspicuous success as Barry; Mr. Cyril Thompson is all that can be desired as Geoffrey Challoner; Miss Maud Harvey as Marjory Joy captivates the audience; and both Miss May Glen as Nan and Miss Nina Carlton as the Princess Melaneh are seen and heard to advantage. Miss Addie Lennard is excellent as Madame Sophie; Miss Margaret Jolly makes a capital Lady Anchester; Mr. Bertrand Gates is well suited to the part of the Rajah of Bhong; and Mr. Theo. E. May as Granfer Mummery. Mr. H. C. Morton as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr. Willie Hartill as Douglas Verity, and Mr. Scrope Quentin as Lord Anchester are all very good. Miss Blanche Carlton, Miss Wingate, and Miss May Marshall should be singled out for commendable embodiments.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr. Geo. M. Slater; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Chandler.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is presenting here the romantic drama *Two Little Sailor Boys*. The company does full justice to the parts allotted to them, and the drama is well staged. Mr. William H. Sams is an admirable Commander Noel Tregarthen; Mr. Leonard Booker is well placed as Lieutenant Richard Redstone; Mr. W. H. Hallatt scores his usual success as Captain Tom Yorke; and Mr. Oscar Power as Jack Jolly. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Ben Baxter, and Miss Lizzie Chambers as Lucy Wilson prove popular and clever exponents of their respective parts. The two little sailor boys, Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke, are exceedingly well taken by Miss May Day and Miss Frances Greene. Miss Mabel Scudamore displays histrionic ability as Mildred Grey, the same remark applying to Miss Blanche Steele as Lola Grey. Mr. Ambrose Horton is good as Jim Royston.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Vidal.—The premier position here this week is held by Cruikshank, musical comedian, whose versatile and enjoyable turn is meeting with well-deserved appreciation. A very fine show is presented by Eugen Marrder, "The Golden Cavalier," on his fire horse. The whole act is extremely beautiful, and his reception at the termination is very cordial. Rose Archer, the clever mimic, gives with the greatest success life-like impersonations of well-known artists. Ryder Slone, as a burglar, in his song scena, *Are 'Yer Asleep*, gives a popular turn. The Norman and Leonard trio, musical sketch players, shine to great advantage in their latest success, *The Itinerant*. Sydney James, society entertainer, who is assisted by Lingard Pike, is seen and heard to much advantage, and is heartily applauded. The Kieffer company create merriment with their pantomime, *The Mill in the Forest*. Basalari, the double-voiced vocalist, is responsible for a novel and clever turn. Frank Leslie is an excellent descriptive vocalist. The American Bioscope, always a popular feature of the programme here, is projecting the latest films.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Charles Bignell, the popular comedian, stars here this week. At the other end of the bill is Lavers' and Lake's comedy company in the laughable absurdity, *The Spectre of Mildew Chase*. Tom E. Hughes, versatile character comedian, is scoring a success. Lord, Murray, and Lord are entertaining in their comedy athletic act entitled *The Intruder*. Carr and Rose, vocal comedy artists, shine in *Their First Quarrel;* Lola Patey is a vivacious comedienne; Kate Lynd, comedienne, and Charles Dixon, comedian, are also entertaining.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Dewhurst.—Mr. Herbert Fuller's company is appearing here this week with the drama, *Fiends of London*. Mr. Hugh Carmichael plays with great effect as Captain Crawley; Mr. Harold Weston does justice to the part of Sir Horace Bream; Mr. T. G. Davis is well placed as Joe Ormerod; Mr. Herbert Fuller is a successful Bob Archer; M Agnes Collier makes a favourable impression as Laurie Christie; Miss Nelson Ramsay does well as Sophie Shade; Mr. Clifford Spencer as Peter Shark scores a great success, as does also Miss Emily Lewis as Flossie Spring; Little Gladys in the dual rôles speaks her lines well. *The Sorrows of Satan* was played on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—After being closed for a few weeks, owing to the typhoid epidemic—now, happily, in its declining stages—this house reopened on Monday, a good house assembling to welcome Mr. William A. Armour's company in *What a Woman Did*. Mr. William A. Armour as Conrad, and Mr. Percy E. Wright as the Marquis, present the hero and heavy man satisfactorily, and Miss Dora Price is admirable as the much-tried wife. Amusement is greatly catered for, Mr. Jim Woods as Fritz, Mr. Fred Rignold as Pippin, Mr. Frank Carlton as Piton, Miss Norah Waylett as Nanette, and Miss Louie Lonora as Fanchon also being concerned in the merry-making; while the same artists are successful with songs and dances in the illuminated fête scene. Miss Alice Raymer is excellent as La Papillon, and Mr. J. H. Stewart is good as the innkeeper.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—That merry musical comedy, *The Girl from Kay's*, is being presented here by Mr. George Dance's smart all-round company. The "Girl," as interpreted by Miss Nancy Hervyn, was marked by grace and smartness; H. C. Barry, a warm favourite in Liverpool, threw himself with great heartiness into the low comedy part of Hoggenheimer. Mr. Fred Rolph's mere actions, without words, made his hotel porter an excellent piece of fooling; and the remainder of the company filled their alloted tasks with credit. The scenery was admirable.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—Large audiences have gathered in the popular north end house during the week to witness the first production in Liverpool of Frederick Melville's latest drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. The somewhat difficult part of the principal character was ably presented by Miss Beatrice Homer; Mr. Stanley Bedwell was a finished Jack Merriman, the hero; Miss Rosabel Dodd gave a capital representation of a woman of the world, her Rose Courtenay being a neat piece of work; and other artistes of ability were Messrs. Leyton Cancellor as Hubert Gold; Mr. Charles Barratt as Antonio Luchessi; and Mr. Frank Dennis as Doctor Carr. The lighter parts were in the hands of Mr. George Potter and Miss Nellie Jackson.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—George Robey is the principal draw here this week, and has been accorded a most gratifying reception. Miss May Henderson, described as the dusky comedy queen, is responsible for a considerable amount of the evening's enjoyment, her songs and dancing are loudly applauded. The Linden Vaudevilles are tuneful, and their comedy is very amusing. Musical Silvo came in for a fair share of applause; Beatty and Blanche are capable dancers; Athas and Collins are good in their comedy act; the Bros. Lang please in their knockabout act; and Harry Drew is well applauded for his song. This week's bioscope pictures are very laughable.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. Simmons.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Greed of Gold* has been here this week. Praise is due to Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh for his admirable picture of the villain, Harry Hood; the Dora of Miss A. Verity is a capital piece of acting, forceful and sympathetic; Mr. Charles Coleman presented an acceptable Arthur Errol; and Mr. B. Fox, as the dumb man Tom, acquitted himself with credit. Neat comedy is supplied by Mr. Jos. Magrath as Conn Creamer, and Miss Winnie Donovan as Patty Mayfield.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr. Fred Granville; Business-Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill.—The ever popular *East Lynne* has been a strong attraction here this week The work, which is the "Bullock" version, was presented by a good all-round company controlled by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh. Lady Isabel was delightfully portrayed by Miss Haidee Wright, who exhibited much feeling and reserve; Mr. Arthur Leigh's Carlyle showed considerable ability; the Francis Levison of Mr. J. A. Rosier was an acceptable character; Mr. Stafford Smith was not lacking as Justice Hare; the constable Bullock found an able exponent in Mr. Lloyd Townrow; and Miss Margaret Parker was an attractive Barbara Hare.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—District-Manager, Mr. T. A. Cook; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Stratton.—That great favourite Miss Vesta Tilley has been the strong attraction here this week, and is as charming as ever. She received a warm welcome from her numerous admirers on Monday, and among her new ballads was "Beautiful Fairy Queen," presented publicly for the first time. The remainder of the bill is occupied by many excellent turns. Verno and Voyce gave an operetta entitled *Jack Sheppard, or, the Burglary at the Grange;* the Lumars, electric-lighted acrobats, gave a capital turn; the Three Sisters Klos went through a meritorious exhibition of athletics; James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, was loudly applauded for his eccentric work; and others who appeared were Hanid Alexander, a talented young artiste; Rackett and Hazard, with their smart musical "Trip Round the World"; the Four Royal Welshmen, glee singers; Martin and Quigg, eccentric comedians; the Proveanie Troupe of Cyclists; Ted Cowan, comedian; and Charles Lilburn, eccentric comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The programme presented here this week is full of good things. At the head are Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, of Carl Rosa Opera Company fame, who present a pretty musical duologue entitled *Her Birthday*. Kelly and Gillette are on a welcome return visit with their capital billiard table act; Miss Lizzie B. Raymond, "the original Ebenezer," is a smart coon singer; the Three Pirmans present a clever comedy act; the Cattaneos are laughable eccentric acrobats; some neat tricks are performed by fox terriers under the guidance of the original Arleys; Charles Russell is a capable comedian and vocalist; Carlotta Levey is cordially applauded for her latest success, "The Gambling Men"; and the gun drill and wall scaling of the black and white Zouaves are surprisingly clever.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. O'Toole.—Good business has been done here this week with Mr. Walter Howe's *A Victim of Villainy* sketch, which has had the support of the author, and a large and capable company. The Dagonets, as comedy entertainers, gave a good turn, their American song and dance being loudly applauded; and Arthur Aiston proved himself to be a clever and laughable comedian.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Tom Stuart, an impersonator of theatrical and music hall stars, has this week been delighting large audiences; his imitation of Martin Harvey, in *The Only Way*, was an excellent portrait. Denby and Dent, "the singing barbers," gave a novel comedy act, and provoked considerable merriment; Frank Boyce proved himself a character comedian of ability; Hayes Bros. are a pair of funny cross-talkers, dancers, &c.; the first appearance in Liverpool of Sam Thomson, a Scotch character comedian, made a good impression; and Annie Wright danced neatly.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. J. Kiernan.—The popular Charles Majilton's sketch company are principal here this week with *Round the Clock*, which has been followed with much laughter; the Sisters Brownie are a pair of acceptable vocalists and dancers; Fred Wilson sings several popular pieces; and others who appear are Herbert Ashmore, actor-vocalist; Nellie Clare, vocalist and dancer; Carrie Foy, soubrette; James Bond, comedian; Ben Storey, comedian; and Madeline Majilton, burlesque actress.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The principal part of the bill is this week occupied by Percy Boucher's sketch company with *When Rogues Fall Out*, a smart trifle in five tableaux. Victor Newman shows himself to be an actor-mimic of ability, and his sketches of characters from the works of Dickens are presented with taste and judgment. Nash and Noel, as comedians and dancers, are an acceptable turn; and Lady Fauntleroy, with her ventriloquial act, added to the enjoyment of the evening.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Tom and Marie Motramo are at the top of the bill this week with their musical act, "Chase me girls, I can reverse"; the Kimberley Boys are smart comedians, vocalists, and acrobats; Pete and Juno give a good turn as coloured comedians and dancers; and others who appear include F. Darwin, character vocalist; and Hattie Burns, comedienne. The "illustrated ballads" and the bioscope are pleasing features of the programme.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr. James Kiernan.—An excellent company have held the boards here this week. Foremost are Stanley and Vandyke, with a merry comedy act; Pharos, a clever illusionist and conjurer, performs some astounding tricks with apparent simplicity; Gillin is a ventriloquial humourist of merit; Mannering and Anderson have a funny sketch, *The Other Charlie;* the singing, dancing, and playing on musical instruments of Miss Fanny Humber, prove one of the best turns of the evening; and Miss Annie Cohen and Miss Kitty Marion are appreciated comediennes and vocalists.

LONG EATON.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Meakin.—Mr. Jasper Redfern's animated pictures and variety company have drawn so well that they have entered upon a second week. The artistes include Mr. Geo. Dinnie, whose feats of strength are worthy of the illustrious Donald Dinnie, Miss Kitty Lavigne; W. H. Smart, character comedian; and Mr. Charlton Howarth, the Yorkshire tenor. Weight-lifting competitions for local amateurs engage attention.

LONGTON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. S. Howard.—*A Woman's Devotion*, presented by Mrs. T. Morton Powell and company, is here this week. Mr. George Gaisford gives a good representation as Richard Chesney; Mr. Frank E. Robertson as Philip Dangerfield is effective in the heavy part. He is well supported by Miss Ethel Tinsley, who depicts the character of Cor Eversleigh. As Paul Eversleigh Mr. W. R. Sc merville plays with advantage. The come element is well supplied, and Messrs. F. Hodson Bob Savage, Bob Anderson, as Reginald, Mes Agnese D'Aragon, as Mrs. Savage, and A land, as Kitty Brown, provide abundan ter. Mrs. Morton Powell presents th Gilberte le Grande in a vivacious a manner, and Miss Maud Hastings audience's spontaneous appreciation by her accomplished rendering of Maisie Loyale.

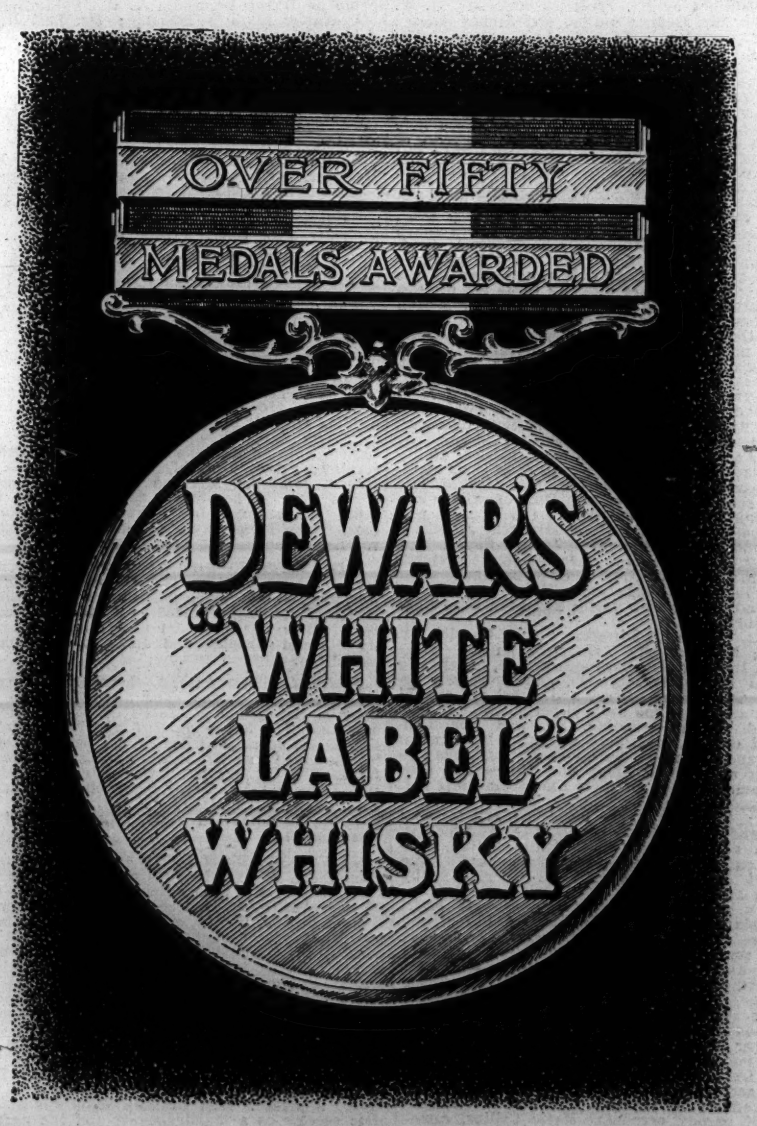
LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Ernest A. Smith.—This week we have the first presentment of the sensational drama, *Life's Sweetest Sins*, by Mr. T. Arthur Jones' company, which had a hearty reception on Monday. The piece is full of action, well constructed, and capitally acted all round. A submarine vessel at work in the depths of the sea creates no small interest. A manly Captain Harold Marston is found in Mr. T. A. Jones; Mr. Oswald Douglas is sufficiently powerful as the scheming Dr. Colbrooke; and Mr. Fred Russell and Miss Sara Dudley are seen to advantage in the humorous line. Miss Amy Rudd gives an effective rendering of Fay Colbrooke, and Miss Marie Daventry, as the sorely-tried Doreen Rivers, wins the sympathy of all. The scenery is especially attractive.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*A Wrecker of Men* is here this week, and an excellent company, under the personal direction of the author, Mr. C. Watson Mill, gives a powerful interpretation of it. Miss Rosalind Tate's portrayal of the part of Risca Mallison is one of considerable ability; Mr. George Harvey contributes a highly meritorious study of Railton, the silent servant; Mr. J. W. Ryder scores a success in the dual rôle of Karnaphus and Ezekiel Isaacs; and Mr. Chas. Yorke does well as Pharosophus. As Doris Melville, Miss Victoria May carries the sympathies of the audience with her. Reggie Verincourt is well placed in the hands of Mr Frank Oliver; Mr. Percy Horton does good service as Guise Strange; and the same may be said of Mr. Gibson Brooke as Eric Melville. Miss Gracie Garside is a humorous Vavasole Slopper; and the rôle of Jim Murley is well undertaken by Mr. C. Watson Mill.

TOWN HALL.—Dr. Michael Abbott, hypnotist, is fulfilling a week's engagement here. He is supported by a variety company, including Sleath and Aldin, in their musical successes, *Under the Shamrock* and *Dashing Duval;* Mentis, mystic; Lucy Coventry, comedienne; Harry Hunter, banjo and guitar expert; Ida Dorme, serio; the Manikins; Norman Powell, comedian; and Helena Du Bois, ballad vocalist.

MACCLESFIELD.—ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Gus Levaine's company occupies the boards here this week with *Sinbad the Sailor*. Miss Kitty Bishop in the title-rôle is capital; Mr. Charles Howard as Mrs. Sinbad is funny; and Mr. Charles Arnett and Mr. Ashley create roars of laughter. Mr. Ernie Clyde as Tinbad is very amusing; and Mr. Edward Haswell is well placed in the part of Captain Kettle.

MAIDENHEAD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Edgar Dereve and F. L. Schmitz.—Mr. Frank Fenton brought an excellent company in *If I Were King*, for three nights. Mr. E. Bellenden Clarke gave a thoughtful study of the rôle of Louis XI.; Mr. Leonard Maxwell was well suited as Thibaut; and Mr. Laurence Grove was sufficiently effeminate as Noel. The part of Francois Villon was well played by Mr. Frank Fenton. Miss Elsie Roberts's quiet, refined style is well adapted to the part of Katherine; and Miss Louisa Vansittar as Huguette was excellent.



MAIDSTONE. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Myland, Baskerville, and Co.; Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—This new place of amusement opened on Monday, and to judge by the crowded audiences on the opening night, it will have a successful season. Two houses are to be given nightly. The following are appearing this week:—The Dandies, in a smart vocal turn; Miss Bonnie Goodwin, with her Apollo Piccanninies; Mr. Leonard Barry, in his humorous scena, *The Moucher's Walk*; the Sisters Desmond, duettists; Mr. Laurie Wylie, with his mimicking mannikin; Mr. Alf. Aubyn, a clever dancer; Clark and Gold, in a smart speciality act; and Miss Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer.

MANCHESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Following the last week of the pantomime of *Mother Goose* at this theatre (during which Miss Hilda Jacobsen and Mr. George Robey were each treated to a bumping benefit night), a season of drama was initiated on Monday by the performance of the late Wilson Barrett's *Lucky Durham*, which found favour with a fairly large audience. The play is capitally rendered by [illegible] Willim Greet's company, which includes Mr. [illegible] Grant in the title-rôle—a powerful piece of [illegible]ure in his hands. Valuable aid is given by [illegible]y De Solla as Lord Mountfallon, Mr. Paul [illegible] Reginald, and Mr. Daniel McCarthy [illegible] Vallerton; while of the ladies, Miss [illegible]earson is most prominent, her acting as [illegible] Vallerton being very clever and refined; a [illegible]k which may be applied in scarcely less de[illegible]to Miss Jessie Winter and Miss Louise Gour[illegible]maller rôles Misses Emily Levettez, [illegible]ins, and Frances Irving are also suc[illegible]

[illegible]tre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oscar [illegible]ing-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. George Edwardes' company, in that delightful light opera, *The Duchess of Dantzic*, pays a welcome return visit here this week, and on Monday gave a thoroughly enjoyable performance. Miss Amy Augarde makes a charming Sans Gêne, her singing and acting being excellent. As Napoleon Mr. Matthew Brodie is particularly good; Mr. Herbert Clayton is highly successful as Marechale Lefebvre, vocally and otherwise, whilst Mr. Leonard Mackay scores a deserved success as Vicomte de Bethune, his singing being remarkably fine. Mr. T. W. Volt is quietly amusing as Papillon, the Court Milliner; and Mr. Morgan Williams is a dashing Captain. Miss Edith Fink is a dainty Renee, and sings "La Petite Caporal" delightfully, and Miss Luna Love is pleasing as Lizette. Other prominent parts are sustained by Miss Kate Traill, Miss Doris La Tour (Sisters of Napoleon), and Miss Mabel Lorrell (Josephine). The chorus is particularly strong, and the setting most elaborate and effective.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company in *The Swiss Express* is the attraction here this week. The piece is well known, and seems to be perennially fresh to audiences, who are pleased by its unflagging humour. After mention of the smart business of Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad, it needs only to be added that they are well supported by a company whose efforts are most notably apparent in Messrs. Wilford Bailey, George Martin, Alec Wylie, and George Power, and Misses Nellie Fern and Florence Redfern. The Four Brighton Girls contribute enjoyable vocalism and dancing.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Benton's company is here this week in an interesting and well-devised drama, entitled *A Marriage of Vengeance*. Mr. Alfred G. Fry and Miss Maud Stuart sustain the heroic parts, the contra rôles being vividly rendered by Mr. George A. De Gray and Miss A. Harrison Tate. Various other parts are well played, the most conspicuously successful being the numbers once enacted by Mr. Seymour Perry and Miss Etta Turner; while Miss Lizzie Burgess is seen to advantage in a comedy part. The piece is well staged.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A remarkably good programme is submitted here this week, the most prominently successful turns being Martinetti and Grossi, in a Continental comedy act; Geo. Collins, comedian; and the Leotards, comical clowns and hat catchers. Other good turns are the Bros. Harrison comedians and dancers; Marie Winsome, male impersonator; Olive Poole, comedian and clog dancer; Bernard Noble, character comedian; Winnie Scott, soubrette and dancer; the Clarion Three, comedy artistes and dancers; H. J. Kisbey, the "Call Boy"; and Sword and Robb, Continental comedians.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company is here this week in *The Sledge Hammer*, which is repeating the success it achieved last week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

St. James's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. Potasch.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here this week in an interesting version of *Sapho*, written by Birkett Winning. Miss Annie Bell is good in the title part, other important and entertaining characters being well sustained by Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. H. W. Curnock, Mr. George Antley, Mr. Archie Helsby, Mr. H. Langford, and Mr. J. A. Story. The scenery is attractive, notably in the third and fourth acts.

Hippodrome (Hulme).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Doctor Carl Herman, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist, makes a successful re-appearance here after a few week's absence, and provokes roars of laughter with his hypnotised subjects. Haig and Novel, comedy artistes, prove very popular, and are highly appreciated, the eccentric tumbling of the gentleman artiste being exceedingly well done and funny in the extreme. Little Rene makes a hit with her song, "An Urchin's Story"; Clown Charlton's musical and acrobatic performance is excellent; Dawson Dwick sings well and patters amusingly; and Oliver Conroy is a comedian of the eccentric order. Other pleasing turns are the Sisters Terry, amusing comediennes; Keith, Merson and company, in acrobatics, songs and patter; Nellie Graham, who dances very daintily; and the Fords, in a burlesque operatic absurdity.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The veteran Irish comedian, Walter Munroe, heads the bill here this week, and is enthusiastically received. A capital musical duologue, entitled, *Getting Even*, is rendered with spirit by Sinclair and Whiteford; and much musical ability is displayed by the Three Gardners in their amusing sketch, *The Rat Catcher*. The Goldini Trio offer a remarkably clever exhibition of skill in carpet spinning and in balancing; the Kyasyas perform some wonderful feats of strength; J. Wilson plays solos on bone and glass; Johnny Fuller, "the great little cat," gives a clever acrobatic performance; the Two Neilsons and Wynn show great agility in their dancing speciality; Harry Maxam sings and patters with gusto; and Fred Rose sings acceptably.

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Millie Hylton, the charming burlesque artiste, is here this week in her latest successes, and is warmly received. The Ashers (Agnes and Mike) are capital comedy duettists; and some clever dancing is done by Fred Fowler, comedian. Jim and Pim, Continental clowns, contribute an enjoyable musical act; Francis Manners, burlesque artiste, sings two pleasing songs; and Cyms and Maude are both clever and amusing in their comedy musical act. Other good turns are Charles Woodward, actor vocalist; Winifred Eyre, burlesque artiste; and Leslie and Player, comedy duettists, with patter. On the night of our visit, Philip Sefton, who figures on the programme, did not appear. Some excellent dancing, however, was contributed by Sterling and Cashen.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will Collins.—A big attraction here this week is Cliffe Berzac's *St. Leger*, quite a sensational and amusing turn, introducing real horses and real jockeys. Another capital item is the Six Brothers Luck in a screamingly funny absurdity, entitled *The Hotel Grande*. Rosie Lloyd, a refined comedienne, sings delightfully a pretty song, with a haunting refrain, "Will You Remember Me." Ida Heath changes quickly into International costumes, and dances with excellent effect; Lukos Herford introduces several well-trained acrobatic dogs; and roars of laughter follow the efforts of Rumbo Austin and his terrible troupe of parody acrobats. Marie Collins, comedienne, sings "In the Good Ship—Courtship," and "Let Them Alone," in dashing style; and Ernest Heathcote, eccentric comedian, is decidedly funny. An excellent series of animated pictures are shown by the Urban Bioscope, including "Deep Sea Fishing," and the famous Elberfeld Overhead Railway.

Palace.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. P. Watson; Assistant-Secretary, Mr. J. Hewitt.—Remaining from last week are the excellent turns of the Gothams (this week in the musical absurdity, *Miss Green*), and Edwin Boyde, the favourite eccentric comedian. The new-comers include the Jackson Family in their artistic and refined musical act, which is greatly appreciated; and Ovide, "the living bust," presented by Ludine with wonderful effect. Other enjoyable items are those of Bertha Pertina, the "dancing phenomenon"; Jessie Merrilees, "chanteuse original"; Goggin and Davis, acrobatic comedians; Arthur Stacey, comedian and dancer; and Woodhouse and Wills, comedians and dancers. Animated pictures are also shown.

Manchester Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The talented comedienne, Miss Decima Moore, is the attraction here this week in her successful song scena, "Good-bye, Little Girl, Good-bye," and "Barney." A remarkable turn is Staley's novelty transformation, introducing Cass, Andrew, and Miss Ada in a pleasing musical and dancing speciality, including an astounding quick change from a cooper's shop to a magnificient saloon. James Bard does some remarkable balancing on the slack wire; and Walton and Lester are decidedly funny in their burlesque conjuring and magic kettle speciality, and are capital eccentric duettists. Tiller's Girls are extremely graceful dancers; Prof. Bernar presents a clever marionette show; and the Morton Trio are amusing harmonisers. Hale and Frances are experts with hoops, the "man on the globe" being especially clever. Arthur Gill, "the man of many voices," remains another week, and "Blue Bell" (picture song), is rendered effectively by the choristers.

MARCH.—Public Hall Theatre.—Licensee, Mr. Joseph Collingwood. — Mr. Leonard Laurence's popular company is occupying the boards here for a short season with a high-class and up-to-date répertoire. The company includes several clever artistes. Mr. Laurence is a popular actor, and exhibits marked ability; whilst that charming actress, Miss Ruby Loncrain, quickly wins the favour of the audience. The scenery and dresses are excellent, and a capital orchestra is in attendance.

MELTON MOWBRAY. — Exchange Hall.—Lessee, Mr. George Andrews.—Messrs. Clift and Forster's company, by arrangement with Hardie and Von Leer, is appearing in *Two Little Vagabonds*. The Misses Frances Fernie and Eva Lumley are responsible for a clever interpretation of the Vagabonds; Mr. J. A. Whitehouse gives a good piece of character acting as the Coughdrop; the inebriated Biddy Mullins is forcibly portrayed by Miss Evelyn Shaw; and Mr. Charles Brandon makes a satisfactory Bill Mullins. The Misses Elena Lonsdale, Daisy Royal, and Messrs. C. W. Mackay, Dick Winslow, H. B. Major, and Mr. Wolston Foster work well to ensure success.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson; Assistant Manager, Mr. Albert J. Lewis.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company, in *Sherlock Holmes*, is visiting this town for the second time, and on Monday played to a full house. Mr. Kenneth Rivington, in the title-rôle, was all that could be desired; as Dr. Watson Mr. Fred Inwood is good; the character of Professor Moriarty was vividly presented by Mr. Arthur Murray; and the Larrabees had capable representatives in Mr. Ernest Cray and Miss Carrie Lacey. Miss Florence Radcliffe, in the few opportunities accorded her, impressed the pathos of her study of the part of Alice Faulkner. John Forman was skilfully enacted by F. Clive Ross; as Sidney Prince, Mr. Harry C. Wright was humorous; and Billy was capitally played by Mr. Charles Chaplin.

MEXBOROUGH.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Henry Bedford and company are here this week in *Gipsy Jack*. Mr. Bedford gives a masterly and life-like interpretation of the part of Gipsy Jack; Mr. John Worth is a capital Mr. Skinner; as Gerald Skinner Mr. Alec. Alexandra is highly successful, and Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin makes a natural Rev. Mr. Harvey. Miss Bessie Bedford is vivacious and entertaining as May Harvey; Miss Gertrude Gilbert submits a graceful and refined rendering of Dorothy Dexter; and Miss Ada Antley displays histrionic skill as Hagar. On Friday night a new drama, *The Straight Game*, was played.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson. — Miss Nettie Ware's company is occupying the boards here, in *When Woman Hates*. Miss Elaine Verner appears in the title-rôle, and gives a most powerful rendering of a difficult part. She is supported by a capital company. On Friday a welcome return visit was made by Mr. Sousa and his famous band.

Grand Opera House, Limited.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. T. Hopcutt.—*The Belle of New York* is again the attraction here, and Mr. Ben Greet's company had, on Monday night, an enthusiastic reception from a large audience. Miss Mora Hersee, in the rôle of Violet Grey, gives a charming portrayal, her delightful singing and attractive manner winning for her unstinted applause. Mr. Harry A. Meymott is successful as Ichabod Bronson; and Mr. Marold Wardroper is quite at home as Harry Bronson. As the Polite Lunatic Mr. Walter Emro is amusing; Mr. Bert Danson does well as Kenneth Mugg; and Mr. Colin M. Johnston is deserving of special praise for his capable Doc. Miss Ada Elliston gives a refined and dignified portrayal of Fifi; Miss Nellie Barnwell and Miss Florence Hersee's songs are heartily applauded. Miss Louie Cadman is a delightful Cora, and other rôles are portrayed by talented artistes.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—The Sisters Warwick, in a trick cyclist turn, are heading the bill here. Park's Eton Boys obtain an enthusiastic reception; their vocal contributions are delightful; Miss Daisy James sings some catchy songs; and capital songs are contributed by Miss Lily Foy. Ted Saunders's impersonations of well-known artistes provide an acceptable turn; Frank Bertram's company, in *The Chaperon*, causes amusement. Geo. A. Booker and Mabel Narbis, in *The Interviewer*, are favourites; and the Three American Idols provide an enjoyable turn. The films shown on the "Bio." complete the bill of fare.

Oxford.—Lessee, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—Mr. W. J. Churchill is heading the bill here, and meets with an enthusiastic reception. Bennett and Martell, the Lunatics, provide an amusing turn; Jeannette Lahour, vocalist; Prince Ishmael, illusionist; Hilton and Hilton, acrobats; Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas's scenes from Dickens is a delightful turn; Reg. Bolton, comedian; Leo, "Fun in a Drawing-room"; the Four Pit-a-Pats; and Mark Anthony, vocalist, complete the programme.

MIDDLETON.—Pardoe's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. William Pardoe.—The Coliseum pantomime company is this week putting on a pantomime sketch of *Aladdin*, preceded by a variety entertainment. Miss Ada Marjutti is a proficient contortionist, and Grapho and Jackson are effective comedians.

NEATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albert W. James.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Hilton St. Just's Opera company in *Maritana*, *The Bohemian Girl*, and *Faust*. In the first-named opera Miss Louise Van Dalle was excellent as Maritana; Mr. Hilton St. Just was successful as Don Caesar; Mr. Frank Land did well as Don Jose; and Mr. Kneal Campbell scored as the King of Spain. Misses Fanny Emerson and Beatrice Torrance did well as Lazarillo and the Marchioness.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Tyne Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.—The initial visit of Miss Ada Reeve and company to this city, in *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, attracted a crowded house on Monday. Unfortunately, the audience was doomed to disappointment, as the management announced that Miss Reeve would not be able to appear, owing to temporary indisposition. It was stated, however, that Miss Reeve would appear on Tuesday and during the remainder of the week. An excellent substitute was forthcoming in Miss Kitty Clinton, who is to be complimented on the immediate success she made in the title-rôle. The confidence she displayed was remarkable, whilst her sweet singing and dainty dancing won unstinted applause. Miss Drusella Wills was a complete success as a laundry-maid; and the part of the clergyman's wife as rendered by Miss Alice Lawrence was simplicity itself. The efforts of Mr. Charles Weir were always effective; whilst the vocalism of Mr. Edgar Stevens was much enjoyed. Good support was forthcoming from the other members of the company, and the setting of the play left little to be desired.

Olympia Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Thornton.—*A Pair of Spectacles* is being presented here this week, and has drawn crowded houses. The company responsible for the production has evidently been carefully selected, and includes Mr. David James, an excellent comedian; Mr. Norman Clark, Mr. Escott Robson, Mr. Cecil Newton, and the Misses Phyllis Ralph, Marion Lawrie, and Edith Cuthbert.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Mark Sheridan quickly renews acquaintance with a Newcastle audience, and again demonstrates his great popularity as a comedian; Alexander and Hughes appear to advantage in their well-known musical act; an excellent sketch is provided by W. J. Ashcroft and company, a principal feature being a well-executed dance; the Caledonian Boys' Band is a popular item; and the efforts of La Tostia on the piano and mandoline are greatly appreciated. The Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers, are warmly received; and James Fawn proves himself a patterer of rare ability. As Tyrolean vocalists, the Sarnthalers are exceptionally good; and the same remark may be applied to both Katie Butler, comedienne, and Ethel Ra Leslie, ballad vocalist. Walter Stanley, in a good song and dance, completes an enjoyable all-round programme.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietors, Thomas Barrasford, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will. H. Boardman.—The Barrasford Operatic Company remain here another week, and delight one and all by their excellent rendering of selcetions from *Faust*. Much amusement is caused by Tom Hearne, the "lazy juggler," whose methods are decidedly original; Mons. Carlton's performance is greatly enjoyed, and creates much bewilderment among the audience; "Teddy" Lewis makes his début here as a music hall singer, and has a flattering reception; the Villions (acrobatic cyclists) display remarkable cleverness; Texas Hattie is a very clever tight-rope artiste; and H. O. Wills, described as a "curious singer," is decidedly good. Mulvey and Miriam, in a comedy duologue; Maud Vera, descriptive vocalist; and Jack Hylton, eccentric comedian, are all applauded. The cinematograph concludes a good evening's entertainment.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is presenting here this week that charming musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*. The company is a strong one. Mr. Victor Widdicombe plays the part of Sergeant Brue in a droll manner; Miss Violet Dene (Lady Bickenhall) sings and dances delightfully; and as Mike Brue Mr. E. Percy Rogers acts and sings with genuine earnestness. Miss Constance Lalt plays Aurora Brue with dignity; Mr. Crank is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Cecil Burt; Miss Lily Maxwell is attractive in the part of Mabel Midgett; Mr. Arthur Stroud as Gerald Treherne sings some charming songs; and Crookie Scrubbs is admirably suited to Mr. T. A. Shale, whose humour is a decided feature of the piece.

Empire.—Moss' Empire, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—The star turn here is Ludwig Amann, who is certainly an impersonator of great merit. Unthan, the Armless Wonder, gives an interesting turn; Paul Sander, with his troupe of dogs, submits an interesting turn; and the Bros. Webb present a musical turn that is entertaining. Pat Carey is a fine Irish comedian; Johnny Gilmore catches on with his quaint singing; and Signorina Verera is accorded a warm reception. Chas. Walker and Ida May (the former perfectly blind) delight the house with their singing and steps; and *The Handy Man*, Selkirk's naval juvenile spectacle, completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. W. C. Somerset has this week presented *The Sorrows of Satan*, with himself as Prince Lucio Ariman, in which part he fully realises the author's clever conception. Miss Leah Marlborough, in the exacting part of Lady Delia Dragonette, gives an able performance. Miss Laura Clement as the Countess Dragonette, Miss Geraldine Somerset as the Hon. Ethel Cholmondeley, Miss J. Burnside as Mother Wurrell, and Miss Daisy O'Neill as Mary render excellent service. Miss Agnes Russell plays with artistic and sympathetic feeling as Margaret Forster; Mr. Talbot Homewood as Paul Carruthers, Mr. Richard Norton as Crafton Lyle, Mr. Leith Fraser as Lord Burrows, and Mr. W. H. Rotheram as Peter Wurrell, fill their parts well.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—The programme this week includes Sibon's Vaudeville Circus, which gains great applause. Bob Graham, an amusing comedian; the Sisters Edwardes, vocalists, drummers, and clever dancers; Tom Vine, topical vocalist; Helen Charles, in a clever and refined entertainment; Tony and Flo Vernon, novelty artists, in some smart business; Nellie Lewis, a charming burlesque artiste; Arthur Denville, descriptive vocalist; and Bert Brantford, comedian.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. John Walter's juvenile company, with the pantomime, *Little Red Riding Hood*, is proving a great attraction here this week. Miss Molly Rafferty is smart in the title-rôle; Miss Lottie Harper gives a dashing performance of Boy Blue; Miss Flo Le Ray is a winsome Robin Hood; Miss Kitty Rafferty makes a capital Fairy Queen; and Miss May Tibson is very pleasing as Little Miss Muffett. Mr. Paddy Mills is very funny as Sunny Jim; Mr. Fred Ellis as Dame Trott has made quite a hit; and Messrs. Dan Dougherty and George Swinhoe, as Slip and Slim, create much laughter. The Sisters Allen and the Margueritta Quartette of Dancers also meet with great favour.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Tintaro, Japanese juggler and top spinner, is meeting with a hearty reception here. The Two Eltons, comedy horizontal bar performers, are as popular as ever; and Minn and Harvey, on the Roman rings, are very smart. Miss Mollie Lent, comedienne; the Cedrics, comedy artistes; Messrs. Chant and Chant, comedy duo; the Sisters Hypatia, duettists; and the Pictures all contribute successfully to a good bill of fare.

NORWICH. — Theatre Royal. — Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company in *The London Fireman* is here this week. Mr. T. Forbes Knowles gives an excellent representation of Colonel Fleming; Mr. Hal Curtis and Mr. Chas. Preece, as Bill Stinger and Nixey Stinger, are good; Mr. Robert Grey, as Viscount Fleming, is successful; Miss Nellie Garside is humorous as Polly Bramble; and Miss Violet Temple acts well as the Countess Fleming. Miss Ella Vance is successful as Grace Curtis; and Miss Nellie Shirley admirably represents the heroine, Ida Curtis.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—The artistes engaged this week are much appreciated. The Barra Troupe are creating an immense sensation in their skilful musical performance; Lieut. Albini and the Lady in Black exhibit some clever mystifying tricks; Miss Alice Lovette and her dog Ben give a pleasing picturesque turn; Learto and his clever dog Babs are popular; the Dillons are attractive in their comedy acrobatic act; Alf. Gibson causes immense laughter; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, and Dave McNeil are amusing comedians; the Kings give a pleasing vocal comedy melange; and the Hippodrome Bioscope pictures include a representation of Unthan, the no-armed wonder, driving in the streets of London.

NOTTINGHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Cingalee* drew a large audience on Monday. Miss Florence Smithson essayed the rôle of Nanoya with a delightful charm and naïvete that won all hearts, and her singing was both dainty and effective. Miss Eva Sandford enacted Peggy with a characteristic vivacity and piquant pertness that evoked well-merited plaudits. Miss Lily Elsie sang capitally as Lady Patricia. Mr. Harold Thorley's assumption of Bobby Warren is one of the features of the play, his pleasant voice and buoyant manner being admirably adapted to the part. Mr. Reginald Kenneth presented Harry Vereker with excellent effect, and Sir Peter Loftus was shown in the comically garrulous style of Mr. W. J. Manning. Mr. E. Statham Staples' conception of Chambhuddy Ram was essentially droll, and his absurdities provoked the greatest hilarity. Mr. Colin Coop made a ponderous Boobhamba, and his patter song was keenly relished. The four little tea girls (Misses Clare Marsden, Claire Pridelle, Kathleen Severn, and Doris Lester) made an attractive quartette, and Miss May Gould gave the solo dances with neatness and finish.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*Hearts Adrift* hits the popular taste here, and the introduction of an electrical torture chair and flying machine adds much to the interest. There is a capital company organised by Mr. Arthur Bertram, and headed by that experienced actor Mr. Julian Cross, in the principal rôle of Captain Teddy. The part lends itself to the versatile methods of Mr. Cross, and his many exciting adventures serve to bring out his excellent dramatic ability. Mr. Percy Rhodes is sufficiently self-asertive as Edmund Gerne, and Mr. Edwin Wilde makes a satisfactory Solicitor. A dainty embodiment of Rosie is supplied by Miss Celestine Bertram, her earnestness and sincerity compelling admiration. Miss Maud Tremayne acts spiritedly as Julia Lane, and another pleasing character is that of Harry Pleon, jun., as a crippled newsboy. Other parts are well taken by Misses Ada Perry, Ella Dixon, and Beatrix Bell, and Messrs. J. P. Dryden and Gwyn Richardson.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macraghten; Manager, Mr. A. W. Bull.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company gives a bright rendering of the domestic drama, *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Mary Fulton furnishes a strong and sympathetic embodiment of Mary Haysel. As Stephen Haysel, the instigator of Mary's crime, Mr. Austin Milroy shows a malevolent energy that makes him thoroughly convincing; Mr. J. A. Campbell offers a breezy and buoyant portraiture of Captain Thornton, and Thomas Haysel is well exploited by Mr. J. Noel Bird. Quaint humour is introduced by Mr. Fred Elvin as O'Reilly, and Mr. Sam Edwards as a Sergeant of Police. Little Dot Moss wins hearty favour by her dancing and banjo solos, and Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves sustains the Rev. Alan Grey with a dignity and force that gains its reward.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Nottingham is giving a rousing welcome to an old favourite and fellow-townsman in Mr. Russell Wallett, who, in the guise of a lady, exquisitely attired, pours forth his smart patter and humorous jokes, evoking uproarious laughter by his amusing caricature of a young lady arranging her coiffure. The Two Butterflies, juvenile gymnasts, display a neatness and skill in their feats that would be marvellous in artistes double their age. The pianoforte sketch of Will H. Fox is as attractive as ever, and Nina Martino vocalises with her accustomed culture. The acrobatic turn of Ryan and Hall provides several merry moments, and another droll interlude is supplied by Swan and Bambard. Jap Kokin is accorded an enthusiastic demonstration for his startling feats of balancing, than which there are no finer exponents than the Japanese. The Astleys score with a musical mélange, and the two-voiced singer, George Tacius, is well rewarded. A comedy act by the Three Brothers Fortunes and the American Bioscope add greatly to the enjoyment.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. J. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. John A. Thompson's company is occupying the boards with *Red Riding Hood*. The parts are well placed, the scenery is effective, and there is a good chorus. Deserving of special praise are Mr. Thompson as Dame Trot, Miss Madge Coeri as Queen Flora, Mr. Gus Hardinge as King Winter, Mr. Chas. W. Coleman as the Baron, Miss Natalie Grant as Rosa, Mr. Albert Victor as Wolferino, and Miss Ella Willmer as Red Riding Hood. The specialities are good, and include the Herculean expert, Goliath, who causes considerable sensation by his marvellous feats.

OLDHAM.—Empire, Limited.—Manager, Mr. Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hulme.—Miss May Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds and company are occupying the boards here in *The Golden Ladder*. Mr. Harry Cullenford is clever in his representation of the Parson, and is ably supported by Miss Conyears Radcliffe, who has proved a capable and sympathetic heroine. Mr. Milne Taylor as the treacherous Bank Clerk, and Mr. Graham Winsford as the adventurer, are very effective villains, and they are ably assisted by Mr. Dan Mining. Mr. Stephen Prance is successful as the Chaplain. The low comedy parts are ably filled by Mr. John McElroy and Miss Graham as Mr. and Mrs. Peckaby, and Miss Jessie Gillette. Little Vera, as Lily, the child actress, is commendable; and Mr. Raymond Chesher, as the Yorkshire Manufacturer, is very good.

Royal, Limited.—Manager, Mr. Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Knowles.—An exceptionally popular programme is submitted here this week, including Happy Fanny Fields, the American-Dutch girl. A good turn is provided by Les Brunin with their billiard tricks, assisted by a clever lady juggler. A capital spring tumbling performance is given by the Max Franklin Troupe; Little Ganty, comedian, creates laughter by his funny antics; Leo Mallards are successful in *The Artist and his Monkey*; the Jalvans are well received for a capital oriental performance; George and Edwards score as patter comedians; Madge Ray, comedienne; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist; and Guy Ryder, a clever bird whistler, contribute successful turns.

Gaiety, Limited.—Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—An excellent company is here this week, including Henry Carlton, the popular comedian, as "Billy Wilks," in an up-to-date military absurdity, *Obliging a Lady*. Capt. Devereux gives a good display with his performing dogs; Miss Adeline Yohle, a dainty soubrette, is heartily appreciated; Geo. King and Tom Delane are well received in their original comedy duologue, *At the Club*; Leonard Gale, comedian, gives his latest successes; Frank Hartley is an able juggler; Miss Gladys Welford, comedienne, scores; and the Bioscope is interesting.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr. Lilford Arthur's company occupies the boards here with *A Prodigal Father*. Mr. Charles Collette works hard and successfully as Stanley Jones; Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu gives a clever and interesting study of character as Catesby Duff; Jones's son, Percy, and Tom Breeze, find capable exponents in Mr. Edmond Bereford and Mr. David Sellar; and Mr. Ernest Wintour is highly amusing as Jones's valet, Smith. Miss Rosamund Bury gives a delightful and fascinating performance of Jones's daughter, Kate; Miss Ruby Chester is admirably suited as Dollie Bonde, whose trying child, "Birdikins," finds a clever and bright exponent in Miss Irene Ross. The curtain-raiser, *By Mutual Consent*, was capitally played by Mr. Sellar and Miss Bury.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. T. Jarman's company is here with *In Dark Siberia*. Mr. W. T. Riley easily gains the sympathy of the audience with his manly and robust portrayal of Capt. Victor Gordon, while the villain, Major Waroff, is admirably depicted by Mr. Wilson Howard. Mr. Bert H. Ross is successful as Colonel Nevski, and Mr. Louis Weston does well as Sergeant Petrovitch. Miss Cecilia Ransome is deserving of praise for her Paul Gregorovitch; Miss Linda Riley is a charming Ivanova; and Miss Ethel Birckham, as the captain's little one, Sonia Gordon, shows intelligence. Miss Carlotto Anson is a dignified Princess Natalie Orloff.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Edward Compton and his renowned comedy company occupy the stage this week, submitting a varied and attractive répertoire, which includes *To-morrow*, *The School for Scandal*, *A Reformed Rake*, *Davy Garrick*, and *The Rivals*. On Monday Mr. Compton's latest success, *To-morrow*, which was produced in Paisley for the first time a year ago, was enthusiastically received by a large audience. The humour and pathos of Mr. Compton's Nicholas was as spontaneous and striking as on the former occasion, the popular comedian being seen at his best in an inimitable study. Mr. Arnold Lucy was again the Dormer, and got through a succession of broadly ludicrous complications with cleverness and rare humour. Mr. A. B. Imeson gave considerable character to the parts of Captain James Trevor and Mr. J. Ashton Trevor; Mr. Charles R. Stone, as Admiral Farquhar, looked and acted the part to perfection; and General Sir Wm. Colby was sustained with conspicuous ability by Mr. Henry Crocker. Miss Haidee Gunn scored as Stacey Coke, her acting being particularly finished and effective; Miss Mackenzie submitted an admirable assumption of Mistress Beauclerc; Miss Evelyn Hall gave an alert and highly agreeable performance of Lady Charles Palliser; Miss Marie Hassell played with perfection of finish the part of Lady Chaile; and Miss Daisy Snowden was pleasing and natural as Maria. Others to be mentioned in the cast were Messrs. R. E. Besant, G. Wallace, Johnston, Henry G. Mason, Francis Sidney, and Elsmore and Wetten.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—A capital programme is contributed to this week by the following: Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists; Ryder Davis, comedian; Harvey Lea, comedian and dancer; James Grant, eccentric character comedian; J. Williams, Irish comedian and dancer; Eva Ward, burlesque actress; and Tom Bassett, Shakespearean tragedian.

PERTH. — Theatre Royal. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—It is rarely Perth has the opportunity of witnessing such an all-round excellent company as that of Mr. George Dance, which is here for the week in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr. Foster Courtenay is quite successful in his amusing impersonation of Mr. Pineapple; Miss Jose Collins' ability is seen to advantage in the rôle of Mrs. Pineapple. Miss Nellie Wigley is a charming Soo Soo; and Miss Vera Vere, the cockney Fi Fi, is greeted with hearty laughter. Mr. Philip Haydn successfully encompasses the majestic rôle of Hang Chow; Mr. Percy Yorke proves an able exponent of Tom Hatherton; Mr. Allerton Turner makes an admirable Lord High Chancellor; and Mr. Leonard May an amusing Lord High Admiral. Miss Alice Drummond is amusing as the official mother-in-law.

PLYMOUTH.—Mr. George Alexander, the well-known actor, accompanied by a concert party, on Monday, at the Guildhall, gave an interesting and high-class entertainment. Mr. Alexander's gifts as a reciter were much admired, and his successful efforts created much enthusiasm. Selections from *If I were King*, and *The Prisoner of Zenda* were included in his repertory, which provided plenty of scope for the display of Mr. Alexander's talents. Miss Kate Rooney, the Austrian contralto, contributed several songs in good style; Miss Constance Drever's soprano vocalism was also of high artistic merit; and Mr. Frank Boor also won golden opinions for his cultured singing. As a drawing-room entertainer Mr. H. Montagu would be hard to excel. The accompaniments were sympathetically played by Mr. Arthur E. Godfrey. Mr. Arthur Carlton was responsible for the arrangements in connection with the visit of the party.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Merely Mary Ann*, Mr. Israel Zangwill's delightful fantasy, is the attraction here this week. Miss

Album is a very novel and pleasing item; Chris. Masters deserves praise as a character vocalist; and Miss Ella Dean is a charming singer.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company is here with the drama *A Great Sensation*. The character of Jack Damer is ably portrayed by Mr. Sydney N. Hallows, and Mr. Alexander L. Isaacson is well to the fore as Bunko Bates; Mr. Frank V. Fenn is excellent as Robin Dale; and the adventurer, Harry Escombe, is capitally played by Mr. Chas. H. Gallier. Mr. William Ames is responsible for the part of Wiley Jones; Mr. Syd Morton scores in the funny rôle of Peter, a postman, and he is ably supported by Miss Ruby Carlton as Hortense, the maid. The acting of Miss Madge Devereux as Sidonie is particularly good throughout, and Miss Beatrice Isaacson scores as Eva Dale.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—This week we have a welcome return visit of Mr. Bert Coote's fine company in *The Fatal Wedding*, which met with a warm reception on the opening night. As Mabel Wilson, Miss Nona Hoffe was sweetly sympathetic, and Miss Gertrude Harrison as Cora Williams gave a graphic portrayal of the wiles of an adventuress. Howard Wilson met with an excellent representation at the hands of Mr. S. Herbert Humber; whilst Mr. Olive Rogers was good as Robert Curtis. Schwartz was in the thoroughly safe hands of Mr. Charles Kenny; and Mr. Tom Macfarlane was all that could be desired as Toto. Miss Marjorie Lawrence was excellent as Jessie, the Little Mother.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Edward Marris and company are here this week in *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr. Cecil Clayton appears in the title-rôle and quite justifies the appellation by his dapper appearance and smart acting. Mr. E. Marris is humorous as the Millionaire; Mr. James Danders is also highly amusing as Colonel Pendred; Mr. Walter Nugent is a capital "dude" as Bertie Bolingbooke. The part of Ivy Pendred is played with great vivacity by Miss Mena Eckermann, and Miss Florence Smithers creates hilarity as Jane, the "general" servant. The other parts are well acted, and some capital specialities are introduced by James Danvers as Paderewski Up-to-Date; the Dandy Belles; and Mr. Ben Rowe and Miss Holden, society cake-walkers. There is also a full chorus and troupe of dancers. Mr. Hubert Bogetti is the musical director.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Limited; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Clucas.—*As Midnight Chimes* is the attraction here this week. The play is replete with exciting incidents, and finds great favour with the patrons of the popular parts of the theatre. Mr. Melville Bickford submits a powerful impersonation of Luke Dezzard; Mr. Frank E. Petley portrays with manly bearing the part of Dave Stannard; Mr. H. Belmore makes the most of Ezra Gamble; and Mr. James Salter creates much genuine amusement as Tat Sparvin; Miss Nita Imeson is sprightly and vivacious as Suzette; Miss Iris M. Ward is prominent with a well-acted rendering of Zamora, a Hindu girl; Miss Minnie Ethel is a favourite as Little Davy; and Miss Gertrude Price sustains with womanly feeling the part of Mary Stannard.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr. S. L. Lee.—The Attila Brothers (Oscardo and Albert) give a fine exhibition of muscular strength in weight-lifting on a revolving platform; Wragg and Wragg are applauded for a clever display of swordsmanship and military exercises; and Gracie Logan, soubrette and dancer; Jack Heath, comedian; The Fordyces, vocalists and dancers; Miss Daisy Silcott, comedienne; Les Valdos, Continental eccentrics; and Vernon's Bioscope contribute with success to the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Seven Savonas, musical marvels, continue to attract crowded houses. A change from last week's répertoire includes a musical scena, entitled *Down South*, which is given with pleasing effect. Post Mason, baritone, renders his songs in fine style; Will Crowson, coon comedian and bone soloist, is accorded hearty applause; Tonini, with Mdlle. Helene, submits a mysterious turn of conjuring; David Poole amuses greatly as a ventriloquist; and Maidie Scott, comedienne and dancer; U. C. Ugo, in Mirthful Mysteries; Cissie Congers, ballad and descriptive vocalist; the Empire Bioscope; and the Cycling Elliotts complete a highly enjoyable entertainment.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Manning.—*The King's Pardon* company is here this week under the direction of Mr. Frank Macnaghten. Mr. Charles Stirling is seen to advantage as Noel Blake; Mr. Charles Whitlock is a manly Clifford Yorke; Mr. Edward Thorpe a smart Major Melville; and Mr. George Willis scores as Spence Broughton; Mr. Henry Belford as Major Dobbs gives a fine rendition of the part; Miss Polly Denville is a sprightly Phyllis, and Miss Violet B. Clark a pleasing Margaret Yorke; Barbara Yorke is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Georgina V. France.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Hearty appreciation was shown on Monday night by a large audience who followed the performance by Messrs. Preston and Doherty's No. 1 company, under the direction of Sidney C. Cranston and Sidney Dench, of the realistic drama entitled *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr. Andrew Mooney as Mark Stanley, and Miss Marie Ramez as Ruby Redgrave, successfully depicted the villainy of the characters; Mr. Jask Sydney as Matthew Crabbam, and Mr. E. J. McSweeny as Billy Binks, proved able accomplices; Mr. Robert Hall carefully played the part of Dr. Leonard Morton; Miss Dora Dench was a pleasing May Braithwaite, and Miss A. McFarlain a creditable Seadrift. Mr. Sidney Dench as Spider Jack, with Miss Dora Pass as Polly Philpot, and Mr. Sidney C. Cranston as Gussie Lamb, kept the house in excellent humour. Good studies were contributed by Miss Lillie Woods as Auntie Scrimp, Master Bert Dench, as the waif Dixie, and Mr. Tom Bowman as Dan'l Drake.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. Yates.—The Four Harveys, in their clever wire act, head a highly attractive bill this week. The sketch, *The Irish Doctor*, is well played by Miss Ada Tilley as Julia, Mr. Lonnen Meadows as Felix O'Callaghan, Mr. Charles Armfield as Charles Rivers, Mr. J. P. Marsden as Mr. Rivers, and Miss Connie Meadows as Mrs. Montague. Lui Hardt, in a gladiatorial act, is much applauded; Mr. H. Pitt Powell is amusing with his eccentricities; Gerald Mount gives much satisfaction with his mimicry at the piano; Bosanquet scores with his violin solos and performance on the bosanquephone. Good turns are also added by Jack Truman, tenor vocalist, and Rosie Cheston, serio and expert dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Taylor.—A very acceptable entertainment is given this week. Benson and Geoffreys, in a funny absurdity, *Spoofed*, afford much delight. Another funny turn is given by Briston's comedy acrobats and knockabout cyclists. Among the other items are Arthur Gilbert, with his humorous songs; the Three Dorians, gymnasts, in an aerial display; Conway and Garland, in their novelty, *Left in Charge*; the Weimars; the Four Magnets, charming comediennes, vocalists and dancers; Max Sterling, Japanese trick act; Gilroy and Cross, clever dancers and patterers; and the Sisters Bartholomew, comediennes and dancers.

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr. Sam Higham.—Miss Lizzie Round, male impersonator; Mr. Tony Merritt, comedian; and Mr. Harry Huntley, baritone vocalist, are among those providing entertainment here this week.

BRIDGE HOTEL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Tom Bradbury.—The company giving satisfaction here includes Mr. Jake Lind, comedian; Mr. George Taylor, tenor vocalist; and Mr. J. J. Martin, comedian.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan. — Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company is attracting excellent houses here this week with *The Manxman*. Mr. Henry Heller appears to advantage as Cæsar Cregeen; and Mr. William Burchill gives a satisfactory rendering of Phillip Christian. Ross Christian, Monty Missit, and Professor Mawley, the inseparable trio, are well depicted by Mr. Edward McLean, Mr. C. H. Ogden, and Mr. Harold Wadely respectively. Miss Nancy Mitchell presents a natural and sympathetic Nancy; and Miss Leslie Adair and Miss Kitty Livesey do full justice to their respective parts of Miss Christian and Bella Kelly. Miss Minnie Watersford displays great dramatic force in the rôle of Kate Cregan; and Mr. Alfred B. Cross presents a powerful and convincing Pete.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—On Monday and two following nights Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company occupied the boards here, and played respectively *The Sorrows of Satan*, *Jane Shore*, and *My Sweetheart*. In the first-named Mr. Ayrton appeared as Lucio, Mr. Barnett Lando as Geoffrey Tempest, Miss Adria Hill as Lady Sybil Elton, and Miss Rose Loydall as Diana Chesney with marked ability. Other effective parts were played by Mr. George Beverley, Mr. Clarence Burnett, Mr. Cecil Webb, Mr. Fred Acton, Miss Gus Nicholls, Miss Madge Foster, Miss Edith Temple, and Miss Harriet Loydall. Messrs. Travis Green and Sam Adelstone's varieties were engaged for the concluding three nights of the week, the company including Hermann, the handcuff king, and Sammy Foster, vocalist and dancer.

SHEERNESS.—THE COLISEUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Dorling; Manager, Mr. Chas. Melvin.—The interesting programme submitted here includes the Carls in an amusing item, entitled *Fun in a Café*; Duncan, club manipulator, a clever turn; a skilful performance by Senor Oswald, hand-balancer and equilibrist; Baigle, trick cyclist; Chas. Rutland, character comedian; Miss Jessie Reed, comedienne and dancer; and Miss Kitty Laurel, comedienne.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. P. Reymond.—A capital programme here includes the Prinellas in a comedy act, *A Country Flirtation*; Joe Gill, comedian; Miss Bessie Norrie, burlesque actress; Mr. Fred Benson, comedian; and Miss Maud Dyer, comedienne. The Wrights (Frank and Dolly), in the laughable farce, *Fancy That*, conclude a most entertaining bill.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. S. Carter.—On Monday, Mr. Norman V. Norman and a good company began a welcome visit in the drama of pure romance, a large audience receiving with delighted applause *Under the Red Robe*, the excellent Haymarket version of Stanley Weyman's fascinating love story. Mr. Norman V. Norman admirably realised the dashing cavalier Gil de Berault; and Miss Beatrice Wilson was a graceful and interesting Renée de Cocheforêt. The character of Richelieu was carefully played by Mr. Robert Hilton, and all the other parts were intelligently represented. The play was well staged. *Nell Gwynne* was acted on Wednesday, and *David Garrick* on Friday.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—That old favourite, *The Lights of London*, is being performed to good houses.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The late Mr. Scudamore's sensational drama, *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*, is doing good business at this popular theatre. The favourite artiste, Miss Frances Delaval, makes a handsome and dramatic heroine; Mr. Percy Waram appears successfully in the title-rôle; and the other characters are in competent hands.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan W. Young.—The leading turn here is a clever sketch, entitled *Juggling in a Café*, in which the celebrated Agoust family fully maintain their great and deserved reputation as farceurs and jugglers. Collins and Hart do a smart humorous acrobatic act; and hearty applause rewards the efforts of Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian; Kitts and Windrum, in a novel skit; Beatrice Renée, serio-comedienne; the Bros. Leslie, in their amusing interlude, *Music Mad*; My Fancy, the famous Transatlantic dancer; the Two Bostons, two old local favourites; the Three Victorias, expert demonstrators of pedal dexterity; George Adams, baritone vocalist; and Gwennie Hasto, a pretty and accomplished vocalist and danseuse.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—Messrs. Frohman and Chudleigh's Co. is this week delighting local playgoers with a capital representation of *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr. Scott Craven scores a great success in the title-rôle; and Miss Doris Templeton, as Lady Henrietta, is extremely dainty and fascinating Miss Aida Jenoure is a charming Mrs. Mulholland; and Mr. Arthur Grenville is responsible for considerable merriment as Henry Pitt Welby, M.P. The principal piece is preceded by Jerome K. Jerome's one-act play, *Barbara*, in which Miss Margaret Damer scores.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. J. W. Gordon.—For the last week, under Mrs. Gordon's management, Mr. William Bourne's company is appearing in *Voices of London*. The play is excellently acted throughout. On Friday evening, a complimentary benefit was given to Mrs. Gordon, who relinquishes her management of the theatre to-night.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. Marte.—One of the best turns given here is Little Cliff, a youthful comedian, who sings and dances in excellent style. George D'Albert wins loud applause for his sentimental and comic songs; the Golden Michalinis, in their equilibristic and juggling act; Jerry Hart and Beatrice Leo, American entertainers; the Three Prestons, in a comedy sketch; the Hamiltons, comedy duo; the Raies, smart dancers; and Florence Deighton, soprano, all contribute entertaining turns.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Marlow, sen.; Manager, Mr. W. Marlow, jun.—Miss Lilian Dundas and company are providing this week's attraction by presenting the world-famous play, entitled *The New Magdalen*. Miss Lilian Dundas, who is responsible for the portrayal of Mercy Merrick, is seen to every advantage in her clever acting; Horace Holmcroft is well impersonated by Mr. A. W. Tyrer; Mrs. Walter Bentley makes a realistic Lady Janet Roy; Miss Ethel Caryllon, as Grace Roseberry, earns considerable merit for her excellent portrayal; and Julian Gray finds an able exponent in Mr. Henry Dundas, who, throughout, impersonates the clergyman in capital style. Messrs. Arthur Lewis and Vivian also take part.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Rene Glendower's company is here in *The Ladder of Life*. Mr. Tyrone Power neatly and characteristically embodies General Gordon; the Fergus Gordon of Mr. Roland Yorke is successful; Mr. Roy Milion gives a manly portrayal of David Gordon; Mr. Finch Hatton impressively delineates Ivan Kirkovitch; and Mr. Roy F. Gascoigne is a bluff Colonel McGregor. Mr. F. Morton Wright amusingly realises Sergeant Donald McDougal, who possesses a petite and vivacious partner in Miss Norah Layton as Mary Jane Jolliboy. Miss Maud York is a realistic and pathetic representative of the repentant Olga Sobrinsky. A charming delineation of Meg is given by Miss Ethel Whiteley. Special mention should be made of Mr. James F. Turner (O. C. Fritters) and Miss Josephine Lee (Mother Flint). The Feros troupe of acrobats are praiseworthy.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Quite a batch of old favourites are appearing here, headed by Tilley Bebe and her troupe of lions. Their daring young trainer deservedly merits the enthusiastic applause of the audience. Driscoll and Beattie reappear in their diverting sketch, *McPhee, M.P.*, and again score heavily. The pleasing mélange, *Flirtation*, is worthy of repetition, as the Five Delevines proved on Monday. Jake Friedman is an immense favourite here, his funny one-man opera eliciting much laughter. Chris Richards, a comedian much above the ordinary standard, is warmly appreciated. Other favourites are Palles and Cussick, comedians; and charming Margaret Radcliffe, who renders her songs with her wonted good taste. The American Bioscope is very popular.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—An excellent entertainment is provided here by the Brewster Troupe, Bros. Huxter, Julian Mack, Edie Charnley, W. H. Hardman, Bert Lytton, Charles Corray, and the Tivoli Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—*The Best Must Win* is being presented here this week by a company organised by Messrs. Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin. Both these gentlemen appear prominently in the cast, Mr. Draycott filling the heavy rôle of Gaston Marcel with much distinction, and Mr. Peppin succeeding in giving an amusing delineation of Juan Minos. As Paul Dumaresq, Mr. Robert Watson is vigorous and robust, whilst Miss Lilian Watson Loyde figures with sucess as Denise; Mr. Fred Aldworth deserves praise for his fine interpretation of Sabretache; Miss Kate Maynard, as Lucelle, is seen to advantage. Comedy of a funny sort is provided by Mr. Fred Danvers, as Jacques Courcel, who receives adequate assistance from Miss Maud Hetherington, as Susette.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Leighton Rooke.—*The Cotton Spinner*, as presented by Miss Mary Austin's company, is always assured a hearty reception, and the visit this week is no exception. Mr. John S. Haydon and Miss Austin appear in the parts which have added so much to the popularity of the production, and the remaining characters are sustained by Messrs. Edwin F. Fisher, E. Vivian Edmonds, Ernest C. Edwards, F. Eaglesfield, Hy. Brown, Frank Storey, the Misses Ethel Inwool, Bella Power, May Grimshaw, &c. The intervals between the acts are enlivened by a series of animated pictures thrown on the screen by a bioscope.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Limited; Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—After a lapse of years, the attraction here this week is the romantic drama, *Proof; or, A Celebrated Case*, which is being presented by Mr. W. McLaren and a clever company. As Pierre Lorance, Mr. McLaren enhances his reputation by a manly and vigorous rendering. Miss Lily Bandmann gives a finished performance of Madeline in the prologue, and Valentine in the drama.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. T. Barrasford, W. Sley, and F. Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—Another capital bill of fare is being offered here this week. Miss Hetty King, here for the first time, has established herself a big favourite. Others in the programme are Rossaire and Doreto, comedy acrobats; Happy Attwood, comedian; Edie Grey, with her White Coons; Cassell and James, banjoists; The Falcons, in clever Risley acts; Tom Lloyd, comedian; and The Jansons, gymnasts.

STOCKPORT.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The many exciting incidents in *A Soldier and a Man* have heartily pleased fairly large audiences here this week, the representations given by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson and company being of a highly satisfactory character. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson gives a capable impersonation of Harold Sinclair; and Mr. Paul Beckett acts with power and effect as Hubert Walgrove. Mr. Charles Perry portrays the character of Colonel Westerton with marked ability; and Lieut. Pelham has an excellent representative in Mr. Edward Fenton. Mr. Harry F. Wright is successful as Jim Farrow; and Mr. H. K. Ayliffe acts admirably as Jake Harding. As Rose Melbury Miss B. Doyle acts most charmingly; and as "Sergeant" Jane Wicks, Miss Hilda Leslie is exceedingly pleasing.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Weldon Watts; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. G. Elder.—The sensational drama *When a Man Hates*, as given by Miss Olga Andre, Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is staged here. Mr. Arthur Hinton as Pietro Danelli plays with great vigour; Mr. Graham Arthur's Lawrence Hastings is successful, and Mr. Gerald Byrne's Paul is clever. Mr. Frank Brunel's Detective Smart is praiseworthy; Mr. Sidney Benson as Peter Simple is humorous; Miss Marion Forrester's Letty is capable; Miss Bertha Cousins as Dolly Simple does well; and Miss Leila Zillwood's Olga Gwynne is characterised by much earnestness.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Batty; Manager, Mr. W. Batty.—The following attractions are here:—The Julian Troupe of smart risely acrobats; Harry Morris, a funny mimic; Lily Lonsdale, a talented soprano vocalist; Ernie Myers, comic; Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Bronte in their funny sketch, *Saucy Maud*; the Bensons in their comedy act; Phil Herman, who is successful with songs and patter; Menotti, "the master of equipose," and new pictures on Payne's Biograph.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—A fine house greeted Carl Mysto, the prince of prison-breakers, on Monday, when he performed several astounding feats; Mdlle. Marvelli's trained cockatoos and macaws contribute a capital turn; Henry Abby's dogs have been carefully trained; Essmann, juggler, is much appreciated; Fred Horsfall is a mimic of ability; Horton and Linder are seen in a good bar act; Harry Slade sings his items with capital effect: Les Sprays, Continental dancers, are well received. Several capital pictures are shown.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; General Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. Mr. George Dance's company is paying a welcome visit here this week in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Chief amongst the many talented artistes is Miss Rita Presano, whose rendering of the Duchess is both amusing and realistic; Napoleon is exceptionally well represented by Mr. Frederick Mayes; and Mr. Mackesay Cullen is seen to advantage as François Marechal Lefebvre. Mr. Colin Mackay is well placed as Papillon; and Mr. Thomas C. Maxwell makes the most of his opportunities as the Vicomte de Bethune; Miss Alice Coverick scores by her coquettish acting as Renée de Saint Messard, and is a soprano of considerable ability; Miss Edythe Carlyle is a pleasing Caroline Murat; and Miss May Harris is equally noticeable as Pauline.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; General-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Mr. J. Leicester Jackson and Miss Blanche St. Alban's company is appearing here this week in *Dishonoured*. Mr. Sam Arthur, as Philip Cunningham, acquits himself well; Captain Peyntland finds an apt exponent in Mr. J. L. Jackson; the Jem Stokes of Mr. Jack Bigwood is excellent; and Mr. Chas. E. Lambert submits a notable representation of Sir William Cunningham; Miss Blanche St. Albans gives a refined and pathetic rendering of Leslie Maynard; and Miss Nellie Lambert shows considerable ability as Sybil.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Directors, Messrs. Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George V. Wybrow. — Edmond Taylor's Magic Kettle is the chief feature here this week; Kent and Keith, entertainers, provide another excellent turn; Lozelle is a gymnast of more than usual ability; Selby and Myers, comedians, score by their songs and dances; Ambrose Thorne, comedian; Fred Balham, comedian; Darrell Trio, in a refined musical act; and the Dainey Comedy Circus, also contribute to the enjoyable entertainment. In addition, there is an up-to-date show of animated pictures.

SWANSEA.—THE GRAND THEATRE, Singleton Street. — Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Lessees and Managers, Messrs. E. Oswald Brooks and J. W. Woodbridge; Resident-Partner, Mr. E. Oswald Brooks.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company, with *The Sign of the Cross*, has been on a revisit during the week. Marcus Superbus is finely played by Mr. F. B. Woulfe; Mercia is excellently portrayed by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy; and Nero, by Mr. A. B. Turner, Glabrio by Mr. Frank Wood, Poppœa by Miss Nellie Bonser, and Berenice by Miss Alma Bolton, all add to the success. Miss Ivy Millais deserves a special word for her excellent Stephanus. The play is capitally staged and mounted.

THE NEW STAR, Wind Street.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The naval drama, *Why Woman Sins*, has been on a revisit here during the week, with Mr. Fred S. Jennings and Miss Florence Harle's company.

THE NEW EMPIRE, Oxford Street.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Mitchell.—The programme here this week contains the following: John Tiller's company in spectacular ballet, *Ohio*; the Allisons (James and Lucy), capital vocalists and dancers; Frank Seeley, a popular comic vocalist; Julius Powell and Co., in *A Quiet Room to Let*; the Onllaw Trio, wonder workers with wire and equipoise; Ergotti and King Luis Troupe, Risley acrobats; Harry Wenburn, a capital eccentric comedian; Flo D'Orville, the versatile vocalist; Grant and Allen, a pair of good comedians; and Percy Honri, in song, story, and concertina solos.

THE PALACE, High Street.—Lessees, the Swansea Varieties, Limited.—Manager, Mr. W. D. Roberts.—The engagements here are as follows: The Dunvilles, in musical act, *Mansion Domestics*; Edith Sylvester, in speciality act; Monty Santos, dandy coon juggler; Harry Leaton, refined comedian; Mdlle. Roseltha, skipping rope dancer; Elliott and Elliott, coon vocalists and sand dancers; and the Three Sisters Adrienne, the motor girls.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred H. Lucas.—Messrs. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's *The Traitor* company, under the management of Mr. S. E. Scanlan, opened a return visit to this town on Monday. As on its previous visit, a striking feature of the production is the excellence of the scenery, dresses, and costumes. The company is again a particularly strong one, headed by Mr. John C. Carlyle, who, in the dual-rôle of Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi, is remarkably fine. Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan gives weight and distinction to the well-drawn part of the Chief of Police or Number One, and Captain Ross, R.N., is cleverly depicted by Mr. T. W. Hurst, who also undertakes the duties of stage-manager. The important rôle of Zula is entrusted to Miss Ruth Shepherd, who enacts it with charming grace and finish; Miss Hettie Senior gives a powerful delineation of the lady detective, Elsie Duprey, and Miss Lily Roselle is seen to advantage as the Countess Zicka. Lieut. Nickolas has an earnest exponent in Miss Isabel Hunt; and Mr. Frank Sutherland (Jack Boult), and Miss Anena Walton (Cen-Cen), are responsible for the comedy element.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. F. Edgar Manaton.—This week Mr. Percy Standing's company is appearing in a repertoire of comedy. Mr. Standing, supported by Miss Joan Ellis, takes the principal rôles in *The New Boy*, *His Excellency the Governor*, and *An Ideal Husband*. Other members of the company who render a good account of themselves include Mr. W. Allison, Mr. G. Williams, Miss Phyllis Manners, and Miss Viola March.

The friends of Captain Welton Dale, the former lessee of the Tunbridge Wells Opera House, will be interested to hear that he has opened his South African tour very successfully at the Standard Theatre, Johannesburg, and the Press of the golden city votes the comedy company the best that has been seen there for a long time.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Henry Eglington's company, in the drama, *When the Lights are Low*, is here this week. The hero, Guy Goldsworthy, is ably played by Mr. Edward Heanley; and Miss Grace Baring's Nan Christie is equally successful; the part of the villain, Roland Goldsworthy, is well rendered by Mr. Tom Ronald; Mr. Bernard Lovett does good work as the Jew; Mr. Edwin Millins is amusing as Donald Macpherson; the parts of Willie Wilkins and Tim Wilkins are creditably filled by Messrs. Dick Seddon and Fred P. Carlton; Miss Violet Annessley is effective as Kathleen Kerry; and Miss Cicely Desmond is admirable as Violet Christie; Miss Mabel Ronald wins favour in the pathetic part of the blind child, Stella Goldsworthy.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Wakefield Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. S. Douglass.—The Mannon Troupe head the bill this week, and appear in the amusing sketch entitled *Uncle Yank* with success. The Muir-Bartlett company is seen in a clever comedy sketch, *A Clerical Complication*, which wins applause. Miss May Milburn, comedienne, dances well; Mdlle. De Vena, Indian Club performer and juggler, gives a pleasing turn; Miss Kitty Phelps, burlesque artiste, sings well; Mr. J. H. Bowman, comedian, and Mr. Frank Caffery, Irish comedian, meet with appreciation.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Mouillot's company is appearing here this week in *A Message from Mars*. The part of Horace Parker is taken in powerful style by Mr. F. Rawson Buckley. The Messenger is impressively represented by Mr. William H. Brougham; Mr. Bruce Lindley gives a realistic performance as the Tramp; Mr. Frank G. Dunn is good as Arthur Dicey; Miss Flora Hastings displays considerable ability as Miss Parker; Miss May Saker makes a charming Minnie Templar; Miss Joan Meredith makes the most of the part of Mrs. Clarence, and Miss Peggy E. Yeoman is excellent as Bella.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mrs. Fred J. Little's company is here this week in *The New World*. Mr. W. H. Butler makes a capital Jack Hawley; as Jim Rawlings Mr. R. A. Green is well placed; Mr. W. H. Burton makes a first-rate Jose Alvarez; Mr. W. H. Sharpe is good in the part of Joe Williams. Miss Bertha St. Ruth adequately fills the rôle of May Walton; Samantha is well depicted by Miss Maude Hamilton, and Miss Nellie Moore scores a great success as Jenny Williams.

WALTHAMSTOW.—KING'S THEATRE.—No better selection could have been made in the domain of melodrama for the entertainment of popular audiences than Mr. Fred Jarman's story of the great Irish Rebellion, *The Rebel's Wife*, which is the attraction here this week. Mr. Sanderson Moffatt as the hero, Myles Byrne, plays with dash and energy; Mr. Joseph Millane acts with full appreciation of his opportunities as the malevolent and bloodthirsty Captain Hunter Gowan; Mr. C. P. Amalia is quiet and dignified as Squire Byrne; and Mr. W. S. Griffiths delivers the lines of Father Currin impressively. Mr. Watson Hume is very fine as Major Fitzgerald; and one of the best character studies we have seen for some time is the Jacob Daly, the spy, of Mr. Charles Freeman. Miss Phyllis Graham is bright and saucy as the true-hearted Andy McGinnis; Miss Violet Keand is good as Norah; and Miss Phyllis Hamilton, with her stately presence and expressive face, gives a fine rendering of the faithful heroine.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—The Palace programme is this week full of excellent turns. Mr. Ernie Mayne's assumption of simplicity is very droll, and his two songs go with great effect. Brown and Robinson, singing navvies, warble sweetly in their singing of "The Village Blacksmith"; Lee and Kingston are bright, amusing, and clever in their comedy duo; and Miss Sable Fern, with her dainty appearance, is decidedly one of the foremost favourites of the evening. The Three Sisters Sprightly sing and act with unflagging "go" and animation; Mr. George Newburn is rewarded with applause for his really clever mimicry; and the Phillips Dramatic Company appears in a romantic episode, *A City of Shadows*. Downes and Langford are a bright pair of comedians; and the Carlyles certainly deserve the description "whirlwind" applied to their dancing, which is a combination of grace and extraordinary agility.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week in a round of the legitimate. A large and appreciative audience gave the talented actor a hearty reception on Monday evening, when he appeared as D'Artagan in *The Three Musketeers*. The acting was marked with a natural force throughout. Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree was a dignified King Louis, and Mr. W. J. Miller especially successful as Cardinal Richelieu. Mr. J. Fairley and Mr. A. W. Wynne were excellent in the respective parts of George Villiers and Count de Rochfort. Miss Kate Clinton, as Miladi, gave a really fine study of a difficult rôle, and a charming Constance was Miss Esther Tearle. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, and Mr. T. W. Benson gave a clever character sketch of Boniface. On Thursday night *Under the Red Robe* attracted a large house, and Mr. Tearle again scored a big success as Gil de Berault, with Miss Kate Clinton as Renee de Cocheforet. On Wednesday night *Othello* was staged, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Jeannie Deans* were billed for the remaining nights.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Martin Conway is here this week, and this popular favourite again scores well. Les Belles Americaines are a charming quartet of lady vocalists and dancers; and the Zampa Brothers remarkable one-legged acrobats. Other excellent turns are Edie Edon, comedienne; Ellis and Vane, comedians; Herbert Maden, motto vocalist; Tait and Tait, acrobats, and the Royal Bioscope pictures.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — GRAND. — General-Manager (for Mrs. Weldon Watts), Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Conneaux.—A treat of exceptional quality is afforded this week by the engagement of the Moody Manners Opera Company, who, on Monday evening, presented *Carmen* to an audience that thoroughly appreciated the fare provided. In the rôle of Carmen, Miss Teify Davies was indeed brilliant; her singing throughout was only equalled by her vivacious acting of the part. Mr. Charles Carter was a capable representative of the character of Don Jose; Mr. Walter Barrett was of course loudly encored for his singing of the principal song allotted to the character of Escamillo; Michaela had a capital interpretation at the hands of Miss Grace Nichole; and Il Remendado and Il Dancairo had capable representatives in Mr. G. Linton and Mr. S. Lansdale.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—This house is being well filled this week by audiences who thoroughly enjoy the talent submitted. Harry Allister, in his justly celebrated character impersonations, heads the list, and is keenly appreciated; the Australian Twin Andersons earn golden opinions by their duets and lively dancing; the Young American Quintette, conducted by Miss Mattie Borum, is a popular turn, their dancing being especially appreciated; the sand and smoke painting, by Mdlle. Wilma, is effective and neatly executed; Alicia Mayne sweetly renders some popular ballads, which are prettily illustrated; Russell and Roper are successful in duets; and the Findens, in comedy, are intensely amusing.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA.—Proprietor, Mr. James Kiddie.—Mr. Fred Karno's vaudeville company is here, and opened on Monday before an audience of gratifying proportions

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, March 20,
"THE PRINCE OF PILSEN."

After the month's season by Mr. F. R. Benson and Company in Shakespearean and classical plays, the Coronet reverts this week to the lighter form of musi-comedy entertainment as provided in Mr. George Musgrove's American piece, *The Prince of Pilsen*, as performed at the Shaftesbury Theatre. This musical *mélange* is dressed and mounted in superb style, and the two scenes at Nice are things of beauty and a joy to the beholder, incidentally a credit to Mr. Walter B. Spong. A huge cast is engaged. Miss Beatrice Lamotte is a charming and sweet-voiced Vassar girl, Edith Adams, and in her duet with the young naval lieutenant she is heard to great advantage. Lieutenant Tom Wagner is played with verve and aptitude by Mr. Villiers Arnold, who also possesses a pleasing voice and a good style. The part of Nellie Wagner is delightfully rendered by Miss Ruby Verdi, whose singing and dancing are all that could be desired. Miss Nellie Emerald, as the French maid Sidonie, is very chic and captivating, and dances prettily. Mr. Alfred Selby, as François, is also very nimble of toe, and droll in dumb show as well as in speech. Miss Millicent Marsden works hard and successfully as Mrs. Madison Crocker, the wily widow from way down U.S.A. Mr. Lawrence Wensley is well in the picture as the invertebrate idiot Arthur Willoughby, Earl of Shrimpton. Mr. Edwin Adeler is highly diverting as the apothesised brewer, Hans Wagner of Cincinnati, and his song, "It vas ze Dutch," goes well, and is repeatedly encored. As Carl Otto of the title-rôle, Mr. John M. Hay acts with animation, and his song, with chorus of students, "Heidelberg," is much appreciated. Miss Meg Hamylton, as Jimmie (a bell boy), deserves special mention, and we must not forget the graceful Gibson girl of Miss Christine Rayinski. Mr. Leonard Hornsey conducts the augmented orchestra.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, March 20, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

The patrons of the Pavilion are this week enjoying a visit of Mr. George Dance's company in *The Cingalee*. There was a large and enthusiastic audience present on Monday evening, when the favourite musical comedy met with a most hearty reception, and the performance went with a delightful swing from start to finish. An energetic and powerful chorus presented the music with spirit, and the augmented orchestra, under the efficient direction of Mr. Edward H. Whitehall, rendered the score in finished style. Mr. Lauri De Frece is very diverting as the Baboo lawyer, Chambhuddy Ram, and scores a conspicuous success. Mr. De Frece is a clever comedian, who works hard with restless energy throughout the piece, and excels in both song and dance, becoming an established favourite with the audience from his first entrance. Mr. Kenneth Wynne is manly and well fitted to the part of the Hon. Harry Vereker, and sings his numbers in excellent taste. Mr. Fred W. Pattrick acquits himself admirably as the pompous Boobhamba, and Mr. George Mudie, jun., makes a favourable impression as Bobbie Warren, while Mr. Vincent Erne is capital as Myamgah. Mr. F. W. Ford provokes much laughter by his able impersonation of the peppery Sir Peter Loftus, and satisfactory performances of Willy Wilson, Freddy Lowther, Dick Bosanquet, Jack Clinton, Captain of the Guard, and Attendant are given by Messrs. Walter F. Bates, Stanley Nix, Moon Taylor, E. V. Carter, Ernest Milward, and M. F. Ormsby. The fine, well-trained voice of Miss Ethel Negretti is heard to advantage in her artistic portrayal of Nanoya, while her good acting again made her an object of much interest with the house, and strengthened the reputation she gained here on a former occasion. Miss Nancy Freyne is an attractive Lady Patricia Vereker, and gives proof of considerable vocal ability by her admirable singing. Miss Mabel Sealby makes a winsome and vivacious Peggy Sabine, displaying plenty of spirit and dash in the part, and Miss Trissie March is pleasing as Angy Loftus, and dances smartly. Capable representatives of Naitooma, Sattambi, Mychella, Soomo, Miss Pinkerton, Fräulein Weiner, Mdlle. Chic, and Signorina Tasso are found in Miss Poppy Wilkinson, Miss May Curtiss, Miss Iris Grosvenor, Miss Minnie Muir, Miss Gladys Guy, Miss Ada Borne, Miss Vera Boiset, and Miss Mordaunt. The mounting of the play is excellent, and the dresses and scenery are charming in their brilliant colouring. Mr. Cecil Lawrence is the stage manager, and Mr. Harry B. Earle the attentive and courteous business manager.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, March 20,
"THE GEISHA."

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday we had Mr. Mouillot's principal company here in *The Geisha*, and for Thursday's matinée and evening performance, and again on Friday, *The Greek Slave* was presented. Judging from the attendance, neither of these charming musical plays have lost one whit of their popularity, each being greatly relished by a large audience. The charming and winsome portrayal of O Mimosa San by Miss Violet Moors was heartily enjoyed, and her songs and dances were warmly encored. Miss Moors is quite equal to all the requirements of the part, and it is a genuine pleasure to listen to her finished vocal efforts, her melodious voice and perfect enunciation quite captivating her hearers. Miss Violet Kenyon worthily shared in honours by her able embodiment of the important part of O Juliette Diamente; and Miss Flurrie Saunders claimed full recognition for her artistic acting and singing as Mollie Seymour, and was well-deserved encores by her rendering of the "Monkey on a Stick" and "The Interfering Parrot." Lady Constance Wynne was depicted on excellent lines by Miss Aubrey Ashton; and Ethel Hurst, Marie Worthington, and Mabel Grant were suitably placed in the hands of the Misses Florence Lake, Lucy Egerton, and Marie Gilbert. Miss Edith Rimmington, Miss Laura Humphreys, Miss Daisy Browne, and Miss Lydia Bland acquitted themselves with distinction as the Geishas. Mr. Arthur Cartwright's voice and style won undeniable encores for "Jack's the Boy" and "Star of my Soul." Mr. Cartwright's Reginald Fairfax was a manly and enjoyable impersonation. The other officers of the Turtle were creditably portrayed by Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. F. P. Wilfred, and Mr. Scott Cullen. Miss Blance Browne was successful as the "cheeky" little midshipman, Tom Stanley. Messrs. J. Hornby and Harry Reynolds were unobtrusive and natural in their respective rôles of Captain Katana and Takamime; and Mr. Lionel Braham, as the Marquis Imari, gave a characteristically humorous impersonation. Mr. Edward Carlton had the part of Wun Hi in safe keeping, and did full justice to it, causing great amusement by his ludicrous antics, his very funny business, his clever rendering of "Chin, Chin, Chinaman," and his nimble dances. A comely and sprightly chorus gave material assistance, and Mr. Frank Barrett conducted the orchestra cleverly.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, March 20,
"OUR BOYS."

This week we have a visit from that evergreen comedy *Our Boys*, with Mr. Thomas Thorne as the retired butterman, Perkin Middlewick. The public never seems to tire of the "Byron" comedies, and Monday's audience was no exception to the rule. Mr. Thomas Thorne has gathered an excellent company around him, including Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, who charmed all hearts with the vivacity of her rendering of Mary Melrose, the poor cousin, and was ably seconded by Mr. Allan Pollock, as Talbot Champneys. As Violet Melrose, the heiress, Miss Beatrix de Burgh took all the advantages the character permitted her. Mr. James Gelderd gave a capital portraiture of Charles Middlewick, and Miss Bessie Harrison was good as Clarissa Champneys. An ideal lodging-house slavey was presented by Miss Edith Hesketh, and Mr. Alfred Harding did well as Kempster, Sir Geoffrey's servant. Mr. Thorne, as Perkin Middlewick, gave an admirable study of the retired butterman, and Mr. Milroy Cooper was also good as the aristocratic Sir Geoffrey Champneys. The comedy was preceded by the charming comedietta in one act, *A Happy Pair*, which was smartly played by Miss Beatrix de Burgh, as Mrs. Honeyton, and Mr. James Gelderd, as Ferdinand Honeyton.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, March 20, the Drama, entitled
"WEP-TON-NO-MAH."

In securing the services of the clever American-Indian actress, Go-won-go-Mohawk, and her American company in *Wep-ton-no-mah*, Mr. Clarence Sonnes this week presented his patrons with an entertainment which, while somewhat of a novelty, was much to their taste. The lion's share of the work naturally falls to the talented lady who plays the name-part, and right well does she respond to the call made upon her, giving a thoroughly convincing picture of the wild Indian lad, being as much at home in expressing the boy's fierce desire for vengeance as in the gentle scenes of the play. Another clever piece of acting came from Mr. C. W. Charles, whose Colonel Stockton was a delightful study of the kind and humane, but at the same time firm, U.S. cavalry officer. Mr. George Courtney was sufficiently villainous as Manuel Lopez, a Spaniard with a penchant for "knifing" people on small provocation, and Mr. Isaac Shawcross was a soldierly Captain Franklin. Miss Jessie Hart caused considerable amusement as Matilda Sniffles, as did Mr. Guy D. Hackney in the character of a jovial nigger; Miss Minnie Coepel played brightly as Nellie Stockton, and Mr. Dan Ryan made the most of Carry Cullen. Special turns introduced by the four last-named artistes in the second act were much appreciated.

WEST LONDON.

On Monday, March 20, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Nita Rae, entitled
"HER FATAL PAST."

The strong human interest in this play quickly roused the West Londoners' sympathies on Monday, the house following the story as it slowly unravelled itself with the keenest delight. As Mark Desmond, Mr. Percy Brown gave a bold and powerful rendering of the part, his elocution being particularly fine. Mr. Charles H. Lester played in a convincing way as the fear-haunted Gilbert Fernside; Mr. T. Edward Ward was a model of energy and go as the genial Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs; and Mr. Victor Mason caused plenty of harmless fun as the kindly disposed Dicky Bird. The rôle of Honor Symes was sustained in telling fashion by that clever actress, Miss Ward. Her every movement and gesture suggested her complete sympathy with the part, and the Maryleboners followed her varying fortunes with breathless interest. Miss Adeline Raby portrayed the adventuress, Belle de Lara, with life-like fidelity; Miss Marguerite Thorne acted in an effective way as Martha Springwell; and Miss Amy Maitland was the soul of vivacity and cheerfulness as bonny Kitty Springwell. A clever study of little Leonard Fernside was given by that capable child actress, little Holly Haslewood, no exaggeration or extravagant gesture marring her efforts. Of the others, Mr. Arthur Paget enacted the old postman, Reuben Treadaway, faithfully, and Mr. Bernard Dunstone showed skill and ability as Leonard Fernside. The scenery by Mr. William Charles deserves more than passing notice, and the staging is most effective.

THE COUNTY, KINGSTON.

On Monday, March 20,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

A good reception was accorded this fine production on the ocasion of its first appearance at Kingston on Monday, when it was presented by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the personal management of Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Levreaux. The company is an excellent one all round, and the play, which was admirably acted, was staged in the most complete manner. Mr. Lawson Butt played the leading rôle of Jack Frobisher, and acquitted himself with distinction in the part. Miss Dorothy Thomas was also exceptionally good as Lady Alethea, a part that was made fascinating by her fine presence and equally fine acting. Mr. Alfred S. Barber put in good work as Hankey Bannister, and Mr. Cecil Brooking acquitted himself satisfactorily as the Marquis of Steventon. Others deserving of particular mention are Mr. Harry Kendal, as Harry Dallas; Miss Amy Ravenscroft, as Lady Westerby; Miss Jean Harkness, as Miss Mornington; and Miss Estelle Winwood, as Lady Lucy Derenham.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, March 20, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Hall Caine and the late Wilson Barrett, entitled
"BEN-MY-CHREE."

Islington is favoured this week with a visit from Mr. Arnold Bell and company in the above drama, there being a fairly good house present on Monday. Mr. Bell, who is presenting this play by arrangement with the late Mr. Wilson Barrett's executors, made a very wise selection. It is distinctly a drama of the better type. Mr. Bell's company all worked with obvious sincerity to secure a general success, and their efforts were deservedly successful. Mr. Arnold Bell himself, as Dan Mylrea, played with great force and distinction, and we have to congratulate him on his success. Mr. C. Imrie, as Evan Mylrea, was excellent in a somewhat small part, and his early exit was a matter for regret. Mr. Fred Baston, as the Deemster, was sufficiently repulsive, and acted well. Mr. H. W. Clifford, as the Bishop, is entitled to great praise, his interpretation being dignified, restrained, and in all respects admirable. Mr. Dan Farrough, as Mr. Harcourt, was also very capable, using a good voice with every effect, and looking the part excellently. Mr. William Reid, as Davey Fayle, was very effective in the rôle, and established himself a great favourite. Mr. Joe Bardsley, as Hommy-Beg, was deserving of commendation for a neat character sketch. Miss Violet Campbell, as Kitty, acted very vivaciously, and made a very attractive looking servant. Miss Lilian Earle, as Mona, acted a trying part with success. The remaining members of the company were quite adequate in their rôles, and the scenery and mounting of the drama were effective and complete.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, March 20, the Musical Play, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Time does not diminish the charms of this "blithesome, hoydenish maiden," and she should long continue her captivating career among suburban and provincial audiences. The enthusiastic reception accorded the piece on Monday night was thoroughly well deserved, for Mr. George Dance's company is an exceedingly capable one, and, it being but the second week of the present tour, the dresses and appurtenances are seen at their best, while there is a refreshing brightness and elasticity about the tout ensemble. The fresh verses introduced in several of the numbers find considerable favour, and much new business has been advantageously utilised. Geoffrey Challoner is played by Mr. Robert Michaelis in buoyant and manly style, and his vocal efforts afford keen pleasure. Mr. Joe Nightingale contributes a pleasing sketch of Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr. Charles Penrose scores heavily with his clever embodiment of the younger Verity. Mr. St. John Hamund plays with unctuous humour as the Rajah, and his rendering of "The Valley of Bhong," with its innumerable topical verses, wins vociferous applause. Mr. Tom Sheridan cleverly realises the part of Granfer Mummery, and Mr. Stenson Liddard is a most acceptable Lord Anchester. In the important rôle of Barry Mr. Charles R. Walenn is eminently satisfactory. He works indefatigably, and is exceedingly droll and amusing. Miss Daisy Le Hay plays Nan in just the right spirit, and quickly becomes a prime favourite with the audience. Miss Nancy Malone looks very graceful and sings charmingly as Marjory Joy, and Miss Madge Temple's success as Princess Melaneh is most emphatic, her rendering of "Under the Deodar" being a delightful vocal contribution. Miss Maud Prenton acts and sings with much vivacity as Madame Sophie, and shares the huge success of two duets with Barry. Miss Daisy Webb plays with distinction as Mrs. St. Quinton, and Miss Fauntle Romley is well placed as Lady Anchester. The concerted numbers are admirably rendered by the well-trained chorus, and Mr. Alfred C. Toone skilfully conducts.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, March 20, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fred Moule, entitled
"BIGAMY."

Our police courts have witnessed many a drama enacted under the above title, and consequently it is readily adaptable to stage requirements. Popular audiences undoubtedly like their dramatic fare rather stronger, and they should be certainly satisfied with the piece under notice. Diana de Courcelle, courtesan and bigamist, holds bigamy quite cheaply, for she induces her lawful husband to wed the daughter of the man she herself has contracted a bigamous marriage with, and murder and arson are not allowed to be stumbling-blocks to her nefarious career. The patrons of the Stratford Theatre Royal who made acquaintance with the piece on Monday night found much to thrill and interest them, and the applause was loud and prolonged at its entirely satisfactory ending. Messrs. Fred Moule and Alfred Denville's company creditably interpret the piece, which is well staged. Miss Grace Lester, as the notorious Diana de Courcelle, possesses an excellent stage presence, and plays very convincingly and with admirable restraint. Miss Cynthia Mathews makes a graceful Sylvia Dresden, and easily enlists the sympathies of the audience. A clever performance comes from Miss Lydia Mannington, who is naturally endowed for the part of Dido, the Strong Woman. Mr. Monson Thorpe plays appropriately as the easily deceived Sir Charles Dresden, and Mr. Kenneth Smith plays with tact and feeling in the thankless rôle of the weak-kneed Lionel Craven. Mr. Henry Handon acts powerfully as Edgar Craven, and Mr. Charles Burdon makes an outspoken Frank Merrivale. Comic relief is supplied by Mr. Alfred Denville, exceedingly amusing as Rufus Cherrybull, who is ably assisted by Mr. Francis Searle, whose antics as a volatile Frenchman are very mirth-provoking. Minor parts are carefully played.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, March 20, the Musical Play, entitled
"PEGGY MACHREE."

Mr. Charles E. Hamilton's company is here this week presenting the latest musical play, *Peggy Machree*, and a delightful work it is. The book is by Patrick Bidwell, who has provided a pretty story, and Mr. Clarence Lucas and Signor Esposito are responsible for the music, which is daintily written, many Irish songs being introduced. There are also several other numbers by various composers. Miss Marie Dainton, in the title-rôle, is most fascinating. Rarely have we seen her in a part which suits her so well. She has several songs which are greatly appreciated, one especially, "Honeymoon Hall," catching the fancy of the audience. Mr. Denis O'Sullivan is seen to the utmost advantage as Barry Trevor. He plays the character to the life, and gives great pleasure to music lovers by his fine rendering of his many songs. Another big success is that of Mr. J. Graeme Campbell, who is exceedingly humorous in the part of Alexander McDougall. It is a wonderfully clever character sketch; in fact, one hardly remembers having seen such a finished picture of a Scot before. Mr. Campbell gives his lines with great point, and scores heavily with his one song, "Across the Border." Mr. Erskine Lang is most amusing as Sir Laurence Borthwick, Captain de la Cour is played with much finish by Mr. Marc McDermott, and Michael the piper is well handled by Mr. Dan Fitzgerald. Miss Jenny Dawson is seen to advantage as Madame de la Cour; Emily has a bewitching representative in Miss Dorothy Garden; Moira is brightly played by Miss Florence Vie; and Molly MacMahon has a pretty exponent in Miss Bertha Seaton. Mr. Alex. Johnstone, who makes an excellent Sergeant Bampton, has a fine song at the opening of the play, which is much applauded. Miss Ida Lawrence contributes some pretty dances. The various other characters are ably filled, and warm praise is due to the chorus for their work, which is unusually good. Mr. Edward Jones conducts the orchestra admirably.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

At the Fulham Theatre, Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is giving a selection of well-known operas in English. *Il Trovatore, Maritana* (twice), *The Bohemian Girl, The Lily of Killarney*, and *Faust*, with *Hansel and Gretel* and one act of *The Daughter of the Regiment* at a matinée, are the operas billed for this week. On Monday Verdi's familiar *Trovatore* was played to a good house. As Leonora, Miss Alice Boaden sang finely throughout, notably in the prison duet in the last act. The rôle of Azucena was most ably and powerfully filled by Miss Mabel Dennis, whose acting and singing alike deserve high praise. The many well-known airs belonging to the part were received with great applause. Mr. Tom Griffiths was a robust representative of the Count di Luna, and Manrico was well played by Mr. F. J. Hargrave. Mr. George Ridding and Mr. A. Wootton were satisfactory as Ferrando and Ruiz. The piece was well mounted, and the chorus most effective, the augmented orchestra being under the bâton of Mr. T. Lawton.

EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, March 20, the Play, in Five Acts,
by David Belasco and John Luther Long, entitled
"THE DARLING OF THE GODS."

This play is being presented here by Mr. Ben Greet's excellent company, under the personal direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard, an old Ealing favourite. Crowded houses are rewarding Mr. Arthur Carlton, the popular proprietor of this handsome theatre, for his spirited enterprise. Mr. Edward Warburton, as Zakkuri, has that breadth of conception and finish of execution only to be attained by careful study and constant practice, and Mr. Alfred Goddard, as the fierce and passionate Kara, acts with unrestrained vehemence at times, but generally with strength and conviction. Miss Inez Bensusan, a most fascinating Yo San, has a command of emotion that stamps her as an exceedingly fine actress. She sounds the depths of her tragic rôle, and the moving scene in the fourth act becomes a most touching episode in her hands. Mr. A. P. Kaye, as Saigon, is dignified; Mr. Ralph Hutton makes an impassive and capable Kato; Mr. Alexandra Haviland is all that can be desired as Tanda Tanji; Ino is commendably undertaken by Mr. Sidney G. Sinclair; and Mr. W. Edde portrays the Imperial messenger in good style. Miss Stella Wynne looks pretty as Ni, and has a sweet voice; Miss Kate Hamilton effectively sustains Madame Asani; and Miss Mary Mannering is delightful as Setsu.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, March 20, the Comedy by Ernest Hendrie and Metcalfe Wood, entitled
"THE ELDER MISS BLOSSOM."

The first visit of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal to the King's Theatre during the present week was an event of some importance, particularly in the play so long and successfully associated with their names. The audiences have shown their appreciation by crowding the theatre nightly, and applauding to the full the efforts of the famous pair and their specially selected company. Mr. Kendal, as the famous explorer, Andrew Quick, F.R.S., has a part which fits his talent to a nicety. As Dorothy Blossom, Mrs. Kendal displays that wonderful acting that conceals art. In the scene where Dorothy Blossom discovers that she is the victim of a misunderstanding, her acting was perfect and led to rapturous applause. Mr. Ernest Hendrie made a bluff and highly humorous Christopher Blossom, and Mr. Bassett Roe was a skilful Major Twentyman. The Rev. Arthur Leacroft was commendably played by Mr. Hubert Harben, and Mr. R. Burnett gave an admirable rendering of the irrepressible interviewer, Tyrel Jones; Mr. Metcalfe Wood was an excellent and amusing Withers; and Mr. W. M. Rutherford a capable Wells; a charming picture of Sophia Blossom was presented by Miss Elise Clarens, whose fresh and natural style was much admired. Mrs. A. B. Tapping was very successful as Cooper; and Mrs. Wells was satisfactorily undertaken by Miss Lola Duncan. *Still Waters run Deep* was revived during the latter portion of the week. A new play in one act, entitled *The Bird at the Neck*, by X.L., was produced on Wednesday evening, and is noticed in another column.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 20, the Comedy in Three Acts, by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE ADMIRAL'S LADY."

Mrs. Lewis Waller's talented company visited the above theatre this week, starting the run with *The Admiral's Lady*. Mrs. Lewis Waller has a part that suits her admirably in that of Jane Briggs, the belle of Botley, who eventually becomes Lady Rumblelow, the Admiral's wife, and her quaint, humorous, and yet occasionally pathetic acting was greatly appreciated. A clever and finished performance was given by Mr. Gomer May of Joseph Rumblelow, his transition from the jolly young sailor of the first act to the more mature admiral of the later ones, being admirably suggested; Mr. Strickland was comically grandiloquent as Ildefonso, the major-domo of the Marquis de Villaflor, a character that was well acted by Mr. Edgar Coyne; the thankless part of Captain Braddon was cleverly undertaken by Mr. Eric Mayne; and Mr. Edmund Waller gave a smart representation of Harry Rumblelow; Miss Minnie Rayner made a dainty Betty Jinks; Isabel, the daughter of the Marquis found an able exponent in Miss Alice Langley; and Miss Ethel Warwick was skilfully contemptuous in the part of the Marquise de Villaflor. Mr. Henessey did good work as Peter Simpson, a farmer's son, and Mr. Frederick Jaques was similarly useful as Joskin, the village beadle. The piece was well received, and signs of satisfaction were general. *Vilma* and *Zaza* are also included in the programme for the week.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, CLAPHAM.

On Monday, March 20, the Drama in Five Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE ETERNAL CITY."

The Ben Greet company are playing this week to interested audiences Hall Caine's famous drama, *The Eternal City*. As Baron Bonelli, Mr. D. L. Mannering gives a most life-like representation, the various shades of the man's character being naturally presented; Mr. Frederick Victor is a capable exponent of David Rossi, his style being both powerful and pleasing; Miss Helen Haye gives a fine performance of Donna Roma, carrying all before her in her tragic portrayal. Her scene in act four with Bonelli, which terminates in his death, is capitally played, and gives Miss Haye a good opportunity of displaying her talent; Mr. Leonard Grey submits a dignified study of Pope Pius XI.; Mr. P. L. Julian, as Bruno Rocco, is effective, especially in the trial scene, and the smaller parts are well sustained. The piece is mounted and staged in a commendable manner, and the various choruses are well given.

GREENWICH THEATRE.

On Monday, March 20,
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

Mr. Vincent Kelway (an old Greenwich favourite) is appearing here this week supported by his own company in Tom Taylor's ever-welcome drama, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Kelway himself plays Jem Dalton, better known as "The Tiger," in a powerful and convincing manner. Mr. James M. Troughton gives an earnest and manly representation of the unfortunate Lancashire lad, Bob Brierley. Mr. Fred W. Britton is an energetic and vigorous Hawkshaw, and makes all the well-known points with considerable effect. Mr. J. McCumming, as Melter Moss, presents an excellent character study. Mr. Harold Chapin plays the kind-hearted City banker, Mr. Gibson, in dignified and impressive style, and Mr. Sidney B. Anderson gives a good account of Maltby. Miss Lena Rosenburg plays Sam with all the necessary dash and brightness; Miss Dora Ambroise is good as the talkative landlady, Mrs. Willoughby; and Miss Millie Vernon gives a charming and sympathetic rendering of the character of the sorely tried heroine, May Edwards. The drama is followed by a clever little episode entitled *A Winter Night's Dream*, which is pleasantly interpreted by Mr. Vincent Kelway and Miss Millie Vernon, supported by members of the company.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, March 20, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Geo. Dance and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE GAY PARISIENNE."

The merry manœuvres of la belle Parisienne have proved prolific of mirth at the Terriss, where crowded audiences have this week laughed themselves into sheer fatigue at the droll incidents and dialogue which are abundant in the piece. Both the fun and the entrancing melody of *The Gay Parisienne* are sustained with unceasing vigour by the talented members of Mr. Charles Macdona's company, who have the play in charge, and none is more tireless in the creation of laughter than Mr. Lionel Rignold, who was the original exponent of Ebenezer Honeycombe on the production of the comedy at the Duke of York's Theatre in the April of 1896. Mr. Rignold's humour has lost nothing by the keeping, and his dry and unforced drollery makes him the centre of merriment. Especially effective is his conduct when disguised as a Scotchman, in which a parody of "Annie Laurie" furthers his droll influence, and again in his travesties of "First and Third," in which he is assisted by Julie De Bon Bon. That vivacious young lady has a charming exponent in Miss Isabelle Dillon, who is all brightness and animation, and in her pretty dresses fascinates everyone. Particular pleasure is afforded by her rendering of "Sambo," with the aid of coloured lights and the chorus, and throughout she sings and dances in cultivated style. Mr. Arthur Powell is indefatigable in furthering the fun as M. Pompier, Julie's lover, who contributes among other songs an excellent rendering of "The girl with the downcast eye," and does some clever and novel imitations of different modes of walking. Miss Gwennie Harcourt, as Ruth, submits a grotesque example of what might be called the "new slavey," and wins an encore for her singing of "Sister Mary Jane's top note." Miss Harcourt is welcomed at every appearance, and her burlesque of Christy minstrels and melodrama, in conjunction with Mr. Arthur Watts, as Major Fossdyké, is uproariously received. Mr. Watts is a properly mordant Major, and his share in the maintenance of merriment is a substantial one. Miss Marie Daltra brings her ripe talents to bear with excellent effect in the part of Mrs. Honeycombe, and no more captivating Norah Honeycombe could be imagined than Miss Ethel Dunbar, who to a pleasing personality adds a sweet and cultured voice. She is heard agreeably in "Remembrance of Love," sung as a duet with Tom Everleigh, a character impersonated with marked ability by Mr. Thomas Kenrard. He and Messrs. Jones, Reid, and Fitz-James comprise the Imperial Glee Singers, who are responsible for some concerted pieces that are excellently rendered. Mr. Rudolph Kloss is seen to advantage as Amos Dingle, and Mr. Clarence Seaton is a typical American. The dressing and mounting of the play is unstinted, and the chorus contribute to a harmonious whole.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, March 20, the Farcical Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

The representations of the farcical comedy, *Charley's Aunt*, at the Dalston Theatre this week are rendered additionally interesting by the fact that the author is included in the cast. Mr. Brandon Thomas appears in the comparatively comfortable part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, and, as the shrewd old soldier late of the Indian service, he becomes quite popular. Mr. Simon Ord, as Stephen Spettigue, an Oxford solicitor, is a quaint personality; the three undergraduates, Jack Chesney, Charley Wykeham, and Lord Fancourt Babberley, are represented by Mr. Arthur Soames, Mr. Richard B. Mason, and Mr. Stanley Cooke respectively, and the way in which these gentlemen, by the carrying out of their schemes, contrive to keep the audience in almost continuous roars of laughter is a study in the art of fun-making. Mr. Sydney Compton is submissiveness personified as Brassett, a college scout. The ladies of the cast are particularly successful in their representations. Miss Lena MacNaughten is a distinguished Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez, the real aunt, from Brazil; Miss Dorrie Roberts, as Ela Delahay, an attractively youthful orphan, has a pleasing style; and Miss Violet Cooper, as Kitty Verdun, and Miss Geraldine Greville, as Amy Spettigue, both make a favourable impression. The comedy is preceded by the one-act play entitled *Fourchette and Company*, in which the characters are sustained by Mr. Henry Adnes, Miss Ruth Suffield, and Mr. C. B. Keston.

MR. STANLEY LEVERTON'S RECITAL.

A distinctly favourable impression was created by Mr. Stanley Leverton at his dramatic recital at Tolmer's Institute, Hampstead-road, on the 16th inst., when a crowded audience applauded his efforts in a programme which would manifestly test the ability of the most experienced performer. Added to a handsome presence and an excellent delivery, Mr. Levterton possesses dramatic gifts of no ordinary kind, which should inevitably obtain early recognition on the regular stage. Mr. Leverton rendered in style that closely approached perfection selections from Charles Dickens, Austin, Rudyard Kipling, and Edgar Allan Poe, and was chiefly instrumental in the production of two new plays, one of which was by "Basel," and was entitled

"MY LITTLE MAID SINCE GROWN TALL."
May ..... Miss Barbara Allison
Hugh Marchant ..... Mr. Stanley Leverton

It deals with a young dramatic author, who ruminates sadly over the past, news having just arrived that has sweetheart has been married in India. He casts aside her love-letters, relics of happier days, and, going to the piano, hums over a song he was wont to sing to his betrothed. At its close the faithless maiden enters, and in answer to her lover's reproaches admits that the paragraph announcing her marriage was inserted in settlement of a bet, and is therefore null and void, so far as their engagement is concerned. Mr. Leverton brought out vividly the pathos of the part of the young author, also singing the song with cultured expression; and Miss Allison played very well in the rôle of the sportive sweetheart. The second piece consisted of a farce, in one act, by Austin B. Austin, entitled

"THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR."
Florence ..... Miss Barbara Allison
Bedella ..... Miss Rosie Stevens
Jack Carlyle ..... Mr. Stanley Leverton

The merriment which followed the progress of this brisk little play was caused by the complications which ensue from a young man's mistaking a house for the one next door, and the impression which he creates on a strong-minded "slavey" and her romantic young mistress. Comical complications are aroused before an understanding is arrived at, and of these Mr. Leverton, with remarkable versatility, made the very most, admirably assisted by Miss Rosie Stevens, who acted with great charm, and by Miss Barbara Allison.

On Monday and two following nights at the Tamworth Assembly Rooms, Miss Dorothy Oswald's company appeared in *East Lynne*. Mr. Herbert Barrs was highly successful as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. A. Pringle gave a capital impersonation of Francis Levison; Mr. Geo. Beel was dignified as Lord Mountsevern; Mr. W. S. Collins was diverting as Lawyer Dill, and Mr. Geo. Harvie, as P.C. Jorkins, created no little merriment. Miss Tilly Stewart acted very naturally as Barbara Hare; Miss Norah Caronne was amusing as Cornelia; Miss Dorothy Oswald in the dual-rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine, scored a distinct success; and Miss Maggie Stewart, as Joyce, gave a pleasing rendering of the part.

At the Opera House, Treherbert, *At War With The World* is this week presented by Mr. Geo. Lyttleton's company. Mr. George Lyttleton plays Tom Redfern well, and Mr. A. E. Johnstone ably portrays the villain. As Blotts, Mr. F. J. Lewis proves a great favourite. Mrs. Leslie is carefully embodied by Miss Nora Kingsley; Miss Lilian Beaumont displays ability in her interpretation of Edna Maddox; Mr. A. J. Allen depicts the part of Hugh Redfern well, whilst the important Squire is cleverly interpreted by Mr. G. Lyttleton, jun.

This week Mr. Hugh Dempsey's variety company is appearing at the Theatre Royal, Rugby. Mr. Dempsey is quite a host in himself, being a most versatile and talented performer. Mr. Claude Ginnet and his company, in the sketch, *Rejected Remounts*, causes much amusement. The Dixon Girls, duettists and dancers, are charming and clever; and Miss Amie Rewande is very good. Henri and Mdlle. Sardou are smart in their cabinet illusion; and Mdlle. Walla Sanger is exceptionally good in her serpentine dance. Miss Marie Rivers renders several songs in an artistic manner, and great amusement is caused nightly by the various futile attempts made to ride Barney, the kicking mule.

Mr. Charles Macdona's company appeared at the Corn Exchange, Wellingborough, on Monday and Tuesday in *A Country Girl*. This was a return visit, and a few changes have taken place, but the rollicking Barry is still admirably taken by Mr. Richard Telford. Miss Sadie Neville's Madame Sophie has improved, and she scored repeatedly. Mr. Standing as Geoffrey Challoner and Mr. Bernard Vaughan as the Rajah were good, Mr. W. O. Billington being a capital Sir Joseph. Miss Florence Vie was thoroughly at home as Nan; Miss Daisy Davis was a pleasing Marjorie Joy, and Miss Lucie Lever (Princess) delighted the audience with some capital vocal contributions.

"ZWEI WAPPEN."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by Oscar Blumenthal and G. Kadelburg, presented at the Great Queen-street Theatre, on Friday, March 17.

Maximilian	MAX BEHREND
Rudolf	HEINZ PABST
Charlotte	ADELE MEYSEL
Dietrich v. Finck	HANS STOCK
Hofmarschall Graf Dornstett	G. F. SCHWIEGER
Mister Thomas Forster	HANS ANDRESEN
Mary	ROSIE GRAWZ
Mistress Hanna Stephensen	CAMILLA DALBERG
Wernicke	BRUNO WIBURGER
Lorenz	THILO ULRICH
Franz	FRITZ STERN
Ein Diener	ROLF YVERSEN

It is not often that we come across, in a theatrical programme, the English complimentary prefix "Mr." drawn out to "Mister," in the German way, and the "Mrs." lengthened out to "Mistress." We presume, however, in the case of *Zwei Wappen*, which was staged by the German company at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Friday evening, that this fulsomeness was carried out with the idea of making a very clear distinction as to what were the names of English characters and what were German. To a Britisher, however, the thought might occur that he was reading a scroll which had been written in the Cromwellian period.

During the present—the sixth—season of German plays, Messrs. Hans Andresen and Max Behrend have presented several modern German dramatic masterpieces, and not the least of these is *Zwei Wappen*, or, to give it its English title, *The Two Coats-of-Arms*. In plot, however, it must be admitted that it bears a similarity to more than one English play. A German health resort is the *venue* for the first act. Baron Wettingen, his son Rudolf, Mary Forster (daughter of a Chicago pork butcher millionaire), and Herr von Finck are all guests at the hotel. As the curtain rises, Rudolf is discovered trying to obtain the consent of Mary Forster's chaperone, Mrs. Stephensen, to his proposing to the girl. As, however, the older woman does not feel convinced of his sincerity, she declines the responsibility of encouraging his suit, and extracts his reluctant promise not to speak to Mary. But she has written to the latter's father, and is awaiting his decision by telegram. Herr von Finck, an old friend of Rudolf, arrives to breakfast in the garden, hoping to see something of Mary. He and Rudolf discuss the young lady from their different points of view. Rudolf is all "for love and the world well lost," while Herr von Finck is not insensible to the advantages of a rich marriage. A little later Finck sends a basket of roses to Mary, instructing the messenger not to mention the name of the giver. Mary guesses Rudolf to be the sender, and thanks him for the bouquet. The latter now considers himself freed from his promise to Hannah not to propose. He does propose, and is accepted. In the meantime, Baron Wettingen has been talking to Hannah himself. He has all the prejudices of a long line of baronial ancestors against the "self-made" man, and the fact that Mary's father is one of the richest pork butchers and packers in Chicago is a source of great grief to him. However, Rudolf comforts his father with the consoling geographical fact that Berlin and Chicago are separated by the Atlantic Ocean. In the second act, the scene of which is laid in von Wettingen's house, arrangements are being made for the wedding. The Baron enters with a bundle of documents necessary for the civil marriage ceremony, amongst them being the permission for a member of the Wettingen family to marry one of lower rank. Without such permission the children of the marriage would forfeit their right to the family title. The "pork butchery and packery" still rankles in the Baron's mind. He is trying his utmost to keep secret the nature of his son's father-in-law's occupation, especially as he has been visited in his dreams by his ancestor, Baron Kunibert, Crusader, who brandished a utensil used in the manufacture of sausages in a manner suggestive of threatening sarcasm. Mr. Forster has cabled his consent to the marriage, adding that he is too busy to attend the wedding, although his daughter may expect a joyful surprise in the shape of a present. Hannah announces its arrival—and enter Mr. Thomas Forster, of Chicago. The Baron's consternation is terrible to behold, for he recalls that Mr. Forster had emigrated as a small boy from a Berlin back street. The scenes between the two fathers are rich in humour; the old and the new world elements seem irreconcilable, and, indeed, they begin a wordy warfare, which culminates in their being too late for the marriage ceremony. Mr. Forster announces his intention of founding a branch pork industry on Chicago lines in Berlin, and to that end he has brought advertisements with him. The Baron tries hard to silence him, and induce him to return to America. They quarrel even about their possible future grandchildren. In the last act, however, in a scene full of humour and not a little pathos, the two men become reconciled, while agreeing to differ on many points. Hannah Stephensen, Mary's former chaperone, marries Herr von Finck, and other characters in the piece help to make up a delightful comedy, rich in amusing situations. Mr. Hans Andresen, as Mr. Thomas Forster, gives a fine study of a strong, sturdy, country farmer-like individual, with very little sentiment for old world fancies, and with all the Yankee love for the making of money. Mr. Max Behrend presents a strong contrast in the part of Baron von Wettingen, a testy, serious, proud old aristocrat, whose ideas in many directions are quite at war with those of the Chicago pork butcher and packer. Messrs. Behrend and Andresen are responsible for most of the work in the piece, and their acting of the two most striking characters is superb throughout. Miss Rosie Grawz is charming as Mary Forster, and a very agreeable impersonation is that of Mrs. Stephensen, as played by Miss Camilla Dalberg. Mr. Heinz Pabst is manly and youthful as Rudolf, the successful suitor for the hand of Mary, and the Dietrich von Finck of Mr. Hans Stock provides us with a clever bit of character acting. The minor parts are well placed, and the piece is mounted in excellent style.

MR. WALTER MELVILLE'S drama, entitled *The Girl Who Lost her Character*, has this week met with a cordial reception at the Broadway Theatre, S.E. Mr. Edwin J. Collins's rendering of the character of the Reverend Robert Everton was sound and consistent; Mr. Wingold Lawrence made a great success as Jack England; Mr. G. Hammond Asquin was very popular as the young man of many ups and downs, called Dick Punch; Mr. John Wilson acted with good effect the part of the countryman, George Purvis; Mr. Frank Adair was sufficiently incisive as the unscrupulous Captain Geoffrey Caversham; Mr. Fraser Brunner was an excellent James Sutton; Mr. Frederick Loyd was good as Detective Weathersby; Mr. Jack Clarke and Mr. John Dixon were competent exponents of the characters of Stewart and Red Cabbage; Master Willie was a smart Newsboy. Miss Daisy Maynard was an attractive Isabella Jones, and the assistant dressmakers at Carlton's were efficiently represented by Misses Sally Bates, Jessie Edwards, May Phillips, and Joan Taylor; Miss Marie McAulay made a decided success as Marian Franklyn; Miss Nellie Brunton was a bright and pleasing Lucy Vere; Miss Ethel Bracewell was a gentle and sympathetic Rose Seymour; and the Molly Vernon of Miss Ada Marius quickly won all hearts.

THE 150th performance of *The Walls of Jericho* will take place at the Garrick Theatre on Monday evening.

"A SCRUPULOUS MAN."

Comedy, in One Act, adapted from Octave Mirbeau's *Scrupules*, by Max Hecht.
Produced for the First Time at the St. James's Theatre, Thursday afternoon, March 23.

The Burglar	MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
His Valet	MR. E. VIVIAN REYNOLD
The Burgled	MR. ERIC LEWIS
Sergeant of Police	MR. ROBERT HORTON
Policeman	MR. STANLEY ELDON

A Scrupulous Man, which was produced at the matinée at the St. James's on Thursday afternoon in aid of the Mansion House Fund for the Relief of the London Unemployed, is not what one would call a violently humorous comedy. Scarcely more can be said of it than that it is quietly amusing. The sitting-room of a bachelor's flat in the West End is entered in the stillness of night by a couple of burglars—or, to follow the programme faithfully, by a burglar and his valet. We catch glimpses of them moving cautiously about in the darkness until one of them discovers the whereabouts of the electric light switch. Then the Burglar is revealed in a magnificent astrachan overcoat, which he takes off and throws upon one of the chairs in a manner highly suggestive of a man who feels thoroughly at home. Our Burglar is thoroughly up to date, and thoroughly in the fashion, for he wears evening dress of the latest cut and style and white gloves, which one would scarcely consider to be necessary adjuncts to his rather hazardous calling. However, the two men begin an investigation of the apartment and its contents. Some gold and a banknote are found in a drawer. The Burglar disdains to touch mere money, but his valet is not so scrupulous, and the cash quickly finds its way into his trousers' pocket. Then the Burglar chances upon what is evidently a love-letter. The Valet suggests that a certain use might be made of it if it were kept, but the Burglar's scrupulousness again asserts itself, and quite indignantly he sternly rebukes his servant for entertaining the idea of such dirty work as blackmail. A number of valuable curios are removed from the table and the mantelpiece, and placed in the Valet's bag. The Burglar is as much a connoisseur as the occupier of the flat, and takes only those articles which he knows to be of real worth from a collector's point of view. After having made a selection of bric-à-brac from one part of the room, the Burglar turns his attention to a small set of drawers. In attempting to open this cabinet, a large vase, falling to the ground with a crash, is broken. The Valet recommends a hasty exit, but the Burglar, hearing footsteps near at hand, decides that it is too late to attempt an escape. A door opens, and an elderly man in pyjamas enters. The Burglar, never losing his sangfroid, bids him welcome, and after a brief chat this gentlemanly Bill Sikes evinces such a fatherly interest in the physical well-being of the "Burgled" as to advise him to get a dressing-gown, and so prevent the possibility of catching a cold. While the "Burgled" leaves the room for a few minutes to carry out this excellent advice, the Burglar and his valet replace the temporarily stolen articles. Even the money is put back into the drawer from whence it was originally extracted. The "Burgled" returns just in time to see the last of the articles returned to its proper place, and he somewhat sarcastically begs the two men not to concern themselves about putting the bric-à-brac in order, as he will attend to that matter himself. At the same time, he assures them that it is of no use their trying to escape, because immediately he heard the noise of the falling vase he sent his servant for the police. The Burgled, however, appears to be not in a bad humour, and he listens with interest to the Burglar's story of his own career. It seems that this gentlemanly burglar, who has such a craving for little mementoes and antiquity, has engaged in City commerce. Finding that a financier or a stock-broker needed the propensities of a thief, and finding also that he did not possess such propensities, the Burglar turned his hand to journalism. But here, again, the puritanical strictness of his scruples came like the sword to Balaam's ass, for he was too honest a man to change his convictions twice a day. So, bidding good-bye to the newspaper world, he determined to seek fortune in the burgling profession. It was the most interesting occupation he had yet been associated with, "and," he slyly hinted, "sometimes a little romance may be discovered in the examination of another person's belongings." He has scarcely finished his history when a sergeant and a policeman arrive. The Burgled has by this time formed quite a nice opinion of his uninvited guest. He informs the officer that two men had broken into his rooms, but had escaped without taking anything. The Burglar hands some silver coins to his newly-formed acquaintance, as he is far too scrupulous a man to allow his would-be victim to tip the policemen himself. The end of it is that the Burgled escorts the philosophic Burglar to his front door, saving him the trouble of making an undignified exit through the folding windows. Mr. George Alexander, as the scrupulous Burglar, presented what might be called a somewhat serious character, if it had not been relieved at times by gentle touches of humour. The part, such as it is, was well acted, but it must be admitted that there is scarcely a striking line in it. Mr. Eric Lewis gave us a study of a bland and apparently easy-going sort of individual in the rôle of the Burgled, and Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds creditably performed what little he had to do and say as the Valet.

The programme, even apart from the new production, was a big and an interesting one, and it is satisfactory to know that over £400 had been obtained by the sale of tickets and programmes. Lady Bancroft announced this pleasing fact in a clever little speech, in which she gave a delightfully amusing account of her experiences amongst unemployed in the East End. The first item on the programme was *'Op o' me Thumb*, in which Miss Hilda Trevelyan played her original character of Amanda Affleck, and Mr. H. Nye Chart his of Horace Greensmith. Miss Margaret Bussé was the Rose Jordan and Mrs. Kemmis the Madame Didier. A scene from *The Taming of the Shrew* followed, Mr. Oscar Asche appearing as Petruchio, Miss Lily Brayton as Katharina, Mr. Charles Angelo as Tranio, and Mr. Alfred Brydone as Baptista. Miss Lena Ashwell sang in charming style a couple of Elizabethan love lyrics, "Young Colin" and "Why so pale?" Miss Marie Tempest and Mr. Allan Aynesworth assisted in their clever way in the performance of the third act from *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Mr. Lewis Waller delivered in fine style Owen Meredith's dramatic poem, "The Portrait," and a speech from *Henry V.* Mr. Arthur Bourchier gave an admirable study of Dr. Johnson in the one-act play of that name, in which Mr. A. E. George was seen in the part of Boswell, Mr. H. B. Warner in that of Captain Mackenzie, and Miss Elfrida Clement in that of Mrs. Boswell. Mr. Beerbohm Tree treated us to a fine piece of acting in his well-known characterisation of Gringoire in *The Ballad-Monger*. Mr. S. A. Cookson exhibited in the rôle of Louis XI. an admirable portrait of the doddering old King, and Mr. J. Fisher White as Olivier, Mr. Robb Harwood as Simon, Miss Lillah McCarthy as the King's godchild, and Miss Lizette Cardoza as Nicole were extremely good in their several ways. Miss Marie Studholme rendered in a lively manner the song, "Blanche Marie," the chorus of which was taken up by eight charming young ladies. Mr. Rutland Barrington sang "Moonlight and Sunrise," a clever song of which he is both author and composer; and Miss Connie Ediss caused a good deal of merriment with her amusing ditty, "In my time." The quarrel scenes from Sheridan's *School for Scandal* were brilliantly interpreted by Mr. Cyril Maude and Miss Winifred Emery, in their respective parts of Sir Peter and Lady Teazle. Miss Evelyn Millard, who had been announced to recite "Her Name," was kept away in consequence of an attack of influenza, and Mr. C. Hayden Coffin's absence was explained by his detention at the Law Courts. Among the ladies who kindly gave their services in the selling of programmes were Miss Lettice Fairfax, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss May Harvey, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and Miss Helen Ferrers.

"THE BIRD AT THE NECK."

A Play, in One Act, by X. L., produced for the First Time in London at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Wednesday, March 22.

Ulick Desmond	Mr. KENDAL
Lord Wrexford	Mr. BASSET ROE
Avak	Mr. HUBERT HARBEN
Talib	Mr. W. M. RUTHERFURD
Nora	Mrs. KENDAL

The title of this new play, which preceded *Still Waters Run Deep* at the King's Theatre on Wednesday evening, is taken from the following passage in "The Koran":—"The Bird (or fate) of every man have we bound about his neck." A simpler and decidedly more euphonious title would be, "The Forbidden Way," to which the events of the romantic story give a double meaning. An Irishman, Ulick Desmond, his wife, Nora, and their friend, Lord Wrexford, are travelling together in Greece, when they are taken prisoners by a band of Greek brigands, and held in ransom for the sum of £2,000, the time limit allowed for payment being a fortnight. The robbers are aware that one of their captives is a wealthy English nobleman, but they do not know which of the two men is Lord Wrexford. The fortnight having expired, the chief of the gang, who is away in the mountains, gives orders that Desmond shall be beheaded. Lord Wrexford declares that he is Desmond, and being like his friend, a Roman Catholic, he begs that he may see a priest, to whom he can make confession. He has a powerful reason for this request, for on his conscience lies a grievous sin. Years ago he and the woman who is now Mrs. Desmond were devoted lovers. Obstacles were placed in the way of their marriage, and Lord Wrexford went to South Africa. His death was reported, and Nora become the wife of Ulick Desmond. Then they meet again abroad, and after the party has been captured by the brigands, Lord Wrexford, who has been seriously injured, is nursed back to life by Nora. The old love is revived, and passion proves stronger than friendship and the dictates of honour. This is the unhappy state of affairs when another message is received from the brigand chief. Both men are to die, and, moreover, they will not be allowed to see a priest. Desmond reminds his friend of the privileges allowed by the early Church in such circumstances, and begs Lord Wrexford to make confession to him. The suggestion is acted upon, but Desmond is still unaware that the story he listens to concerns him personally. When Nora enters, however, the truth is revealed, and Desmond curses the man who has dishonoured him. They are led forth to die. A messenger arrives in wild haste and informs Nora that the ransom has been received, and that the condemned men are to be set free. He goes on his way; and Nora, left alone, sees only one way out. She has been warned that anyone seen on the road which leads to Athens will be shot by the sentries; and she rushes down the forbidden way to her death. The two men return in time to see her led in mortally wounded. Addressing her husband, she gasps the word "Forgive," and falls dead.

The new play serves the purpose of giving Mrs. Kendal another opportunity of displaying her power as a clever emotional actress who is always natural in her expression of strong feeling, and never oversteps the border-line beyond which lies inartistic and ineffective exaggeration. The woman's love for the wrong man, her sense of shame at the betrayal of her husband, and her despair at the end of it all, were depicted with that force and certainty of touch which we are accustomed to from Mrs. Kendal. Ulick Desmond had a hearty, genial, and thoroughly sincere representative in Mr. Kendal, who was equally successful in his expression of strong feeling. Mr. Bassett Roe gave a very good representation of Lord Wrexford, and the picturesque robbers, Avak and Talib, were excellently embodied by Mr. Hubert Harben and Mr. W. M. Rutherfurd.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Jane Hading—Saturday, March 25.
John Le Hay—Saturday, March 25.
Oscar Power—Saturday, March 25.
Tom Woottwell—Saturday, March 25.
Emélie Polini—Saturday, March 25.
Romah Phanto—Saturday, March 25.
Alexia Bassian—Saturday, March 25.
E. C. Gittins—Saturday, March 25.
Fred Denby—Saturday, March 25.
William Macready—Sunday, March 26.
Fred Holden—Sunday, March 26.
Charles E. Harrison—Sunday, March 26.
Arthur Knight—Sunday, March 26.
Clara Santley—Monday, March 27.
Ilma Norina—Monday, March 27.
Minnie Sadler—Monday, March 27.
Percy B. Gooch—Monday, March 27.
H. Kyrle Bellew—Tuesday, March 28.
Frank E. Petley—Tuesday, March 28.
Lizzie Boone—Tuesday, March 28.
John Doran—Tuesday, March 28.
C. Reuben Raffin—Tuesday, March 28.
Harry Lupino—Tuesday, March 28.
George Prior—Tuesday, March 28.
Marie Ray—Tuesday, March 28.
Walter Leaver—Wednesday, March 29.
G. H. Chirgwin—Wednesday, March 29.
Katie May—Wednesday, March 29.
Ella Russell—Thursday, March 30.
Marion Grahame—Thursday, March 30.
Gus Gauntlett—Thursday, March 30.
George D'Albert—Thursday, March 30.
Gipsy Woolf—Thursday, March 30.
Minnie Palmer—Friday, March 31.
W. Clarkson—Friday, March 31.

THE Pardoes are paying a return visit to the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, with their comic pantomime, *Cinderella*, with the same cast and specialities as they did a few weeks ago, and opened on Monday night to a crowded house.

MR. EUGENE BERTRAM, who has been managing for Mr. Martin Harvey during Mr. F. B. O'Neill's illness, was recently the recipient from Mr. Harvey of a handsome tie pin, set with gems representing the French tricolour, as a little token of appreciation of his work.

MISS WINIFRED CHALMERS' company in *A Woman's Revenge*, is appearing at the Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, this week. Mr. Henry L. Osmond does well as Frank Drummon, as also does Mr. Dunlop Stewart, as Jeptha Grinvade. Dick Chelton is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Herbert Woodin; Mr. John Overstone evokes applause in the rôle of Reuben Mansell; Miss W. Chalmers characteristically plays the part of Mary Lonsdale; and as Little Mary, Miss Mabel Hall leaves little to be desired. Miss Wallace, as Mabel Wentworth; and Miss Sellman, as Maggie Westwood, are exceptionally good in their respective representations. On Thursday and Friday the *God of Night* was played.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA MARCHE FORCEE."

Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by MM. Georges Berr and Marc Sonal, produced at the Palais-Royal, March 17.

Majoret	M. RAIMOND
Galaor	M. CHAS. LAMY
Champagnac	M. GALIPAUX
Jonathan Pim	M. HURTEAUX
Des Pommettes	M. TREVILLE
Gaetan	M. HAMILTON
Mme. Majoret	MME. LEGRAND
Jeanne des Pommettes	MME. SAMUEL
Pauline	MDLLE. DEMAY
Poupoule	MDLLE. FABER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, MARCH 23.—Those subject to headaches will do well not to follow too closely the plot of the new farce produced at the Palais-Royal; and the authors did not act wisely in overtaxing the brains of their patrons, not accustomed to such gigantic mental efforts. Ten years before the story is supposed to begin Champagnac, calling unexpectedly on his mistress, Madeleine de Commercy—alias Poupoule—has found her in bed with Majoret. He forgave Majoret, on condition of the culprit promising to render any service required from him. When the curtain rises that moment has arrived. Poupoule is still Champagnac's mistress, but the latter has grown tired of her; and he orders Majoret to renew his amorous exploits, to enable Champagnac to catch them in *flagrante delicto*, and throw the damsel over. Unfortunately, Majoret is now married, and his wife—an over-ripe lady, as jealous as a female Othello—has sworn to retaliate if she catches her husband sinning. She has even fixed upon the man who is to be her instrument of revenge, Des Pommettes, a gentleman she knew years ago, when she was young and pretty. When Des Pommettes hears of the bliss in store for him he is panic-stricken; and he resolves to prevent by every means Majoret from being caught with Poupoule. So far the story is very clear, and even promises to be interesting. In the second act, however, we find ourselves in a labyrinth of impossible incidents, and we lose the thread. Majoret is discovered, not with Poupoule, but with Mme. des Pommettes; the vindictive and amorous Mme. Majoret is carried off by mistake, and brought to the Marquis de Galaor, an eccentric Brazilian; other personages come upon the scene, and add to the general confusion, until finally things are more or less put straight. And, as by some unwritten law a Palais-Royal farce is bound to contain something "peppery," the necessary condiment is supplied by a small lamp, which exhales an aphrodisiacal perfume. This lamp has been left by the Brazilian in Poupoule's drawing-room, and the effect of its vapours on those who happen to inhale them is instantaneous and most peculiar. The farce was excellently played by the capital Palais-Royal company.

M. POREL has received a four-act play by M. Pierre Berton. It is called *Les Façades*, and is founded on M. François de Nion's well-known novel.

AT the Gymnase, *Le Retour de Jerusalem* has been withdrawn. *L'Age d'Aimer* will probably be produced next week.

"L'ANGE DU FOYER."

Play, in Three Acts, by MM. G. A. de Caillavet and Robert de Flers, produced at the Nouveautés, March 19.

Jacques Chardin	M. NOBLET
Sigmond	M. TORIN
Stettin	M. NUMA
Golard	M. LANDRIN
Maître Charlotte	M. MONDOS
Marianne	MDLLE. M. LENDER
Chouquette	MDLLE. CARLIX
Mme. Vareilles	MDLLE. MAUREL
Jacqueline	MDLLE. SANDRY
Mme. Troussel	MME. JENNY ROSE
Augustine	MDLLE. GENSE

MM. de Caillavet and de Flers have once more given us a subtle play, possibly somewhat too subtle for the average playgoer, who, chiefly interested in the "story," will probably miss much of the psychology contained in this delightfully naughty comedy. The plot is by no means complicated. The Chardins are an ultra-Parisian couple. Society has engulfed them so thoroughly that Jacques has forgotten he has a charming wife, and Marianne has no more thoughts for the husband she always admired. Yet, between them there is a link which keeps them together, a link called Sigmond des Oublies, a fat bachelor, the friend of the house, so devoted to husband and wife that they have christened him "L'Ange du foyer"—the guardian angel of their home. If Jacques intends to take a mistress, or if Marianne wants to launch into a risky flirtation, the good Sigmond holds up a warning hand, and prevents his friends from straying from the path of virtue. For all that, Sigmond is anything but a saint. Secretly in love with Marianne, he hopes to make her his mistress, for which reason he prevents, with diplomatic skill, the wife from running off the rails with a rival, and the husband from embarking in adventures likely to lead to a rupture at home. Then the unforeseen happens. Jacques has made the acquaintance of Chouquette, a music hall singer, a little cocotte, with whom he makes an appointment at Sigmond's rooms on the very day Sigmond expects Marianne to pay him her long-promised visit. Marianne having obtained the proof of her husband's infidelity, thereupon decides to divorce, and to become afterwards Madame Sigmond. And then it is Chouquette who saves the situation. Chouquette at one time had been amiably received by Marianne, at whose house she sang, and who gave the budding little cocotte a few useful hints on the art of starting a flirtation. Chouquette has profited by these lessons, and, in a fit of gratitude, calls on the woman whose husband she enticed away. The conversation between the society lady and the music hall divette is typical. "You have given me some good advice," says Chouquette; "it is now my turn to teach you something, viz., how to win back a man you have lost and retain his love. Moreover, I have discovered that your husband does not care for me, and that it is you and you alone he loves." And the little cocotte says many more wise things which Marianne takes to heart, with the result that she and Jacques, sadder and wiser, fall into each other's arms, and their reconciliation will be lasting. And Sigmond? He will be the victim. Marianne and Jacques have traced all their trouble to the man's constant presence in their house, and he is politely requested to play the part of "guardian angel" somewhere else. The interpretation was beyond praise. The pretty rôle of Chouquette was ably played by Mdlle. Carlix; Mdlle. Lender imparted much life to the part of Marianne; M. Noblet's impersonation of Jacques was admirable; and M. Torin's Sigmond will rank among his best creations. The work met with an excellent reception.

"LE TALISMAN,"

Play in Four Acts, in Verse, by M. Louis Marsolleau, produced at the Bouffes-Parisiens, March 21.

Le Roi Astolph	M. DE MAX
Orfiz	M. HENRY KRAUSS
Habakuk	M. ARMAND BOUR
Diomède	M. MITRECEY
Maddalena	MDLLE. GINA BARBIERI
Rita	MDLLE. BERTHE LESLANC

"LE TALISMAN," one of Andersen's well-known stories, already dramatised by the German author Fulda, has also inspired M. Louis Marsolleau, who has given us a very fine work, which met with an enthusiastic reception. The tragic story comes at an opportune moment, when thousands of men are wading through blood for the greater glory of a foundering autocracy; and if any of the Russian Grand Dukes, on pleasure bent, should now come to our city, I recommend him a visit to the Bouffes-Parisiens. He will, I am afraid, hear there a few unpleasant truths, but he may take away with him some sound advice for his headstrong Chief. The pretty story of how Orfiz promises to weave for King Astolf, the tyrant, a magic garment, which will enable him to know men, to distinguish the truthful from the liars, and the good from the wicked, is delightfully told in flowing and musical verse. Special praise is due to M. Bour for the manner in which he mounted the work on the diminutive stage of the Bouffes, giving us the illusion of huge palace and a wide street with a seething crowd. For the company, too, there is nothing but praise. M. de Max, an admirable artiste, played with a manly earnestness the difficult rôle of King Astolf, and the other parts were interpreted in a manner showing that M. Bour, following M. Antoine's example, works everything up to a point of perfection.

THE great event this month will be the production at the Gymnase of *L'Age d'Aimer*, with Madame Réjane in the principal rôle. The première has been fixed for Sunday next.

AT the Comédie-Francaise we will have next month *The Duel*, a new play by M. Henri Lavedan, and the revival of Alfred de Vigny's *Shylock*.

I AM happy to inform you that M. Albert Carré, the manager of the Opera-Comique, who underwent a very dangerous operation, is now in a fair way of recovery.

M. FERNAND LE BORNE'S new opera, *Les Girondins*, will be brought out in Lyons on Saturday next.

"PRINCE CHARLIE;
or, King of the Highland Hearts."

A Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by Duncan Tovey and Sidney H. Sime,
Produced for the First Time at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Thursday, March 23.

Prince Charles Edward Stuart	Pte. J. A. BENTHAM.
Simon, Lord Lovat	Lance-Sergt. DUNCAN TOVEY.
Lord George Murray	Lieut. F. H. LINDSAY.
James MacGregor	Sergt. GEORGE KERR SMITH.
Colonel O'Sullivan	Lance-Sergt.-Piper KENNETH MCNIVEN.
Cameron of Lochiel	Sergt. R. de C. FINDLAY.
John Murray of Broughton	Lance-Corpl. NORMAN ROBERTSON.
Alan MacDonald	Private J. F. HAY.
Ned Burke	Private R. WILSON SIMPSON.
Pickle	Private LOUIS WEIRTER.
An Officer of Sackville's Regiment	Colour-Sergeant T. P. EARLE.
Sergeant of Cobham's Dragoons	Sergt. T. JACKSON.
Mistress Fraser of Gortuleg	Miss MAGGIE WALLACE.
Clementina Walkinshaw	Miss MURIEL SPENCER-BRUNTON.
Flora Macdonald	Miss MARY ALLESTREE.

The dramatic literature of Scotland will, we fear, gain little by the production of the above-named drama, in the construction of which two pens have apparently been moving in opposite directions. Historical incidents are associated with sinister schemes of melodrama of the crudest kind, and while some attempts at poetic writing are apparent, the dialogue as a whole, is nowhere distinguished. The favourable verdict of the audience on Thursday was secured by a few scenes of thrilling interest, for which British uniforms and Scottish tartan were mainly responsible.

The chief events of the first act are a Highland reel and the arrival of Prince Charlie at Holyrood following the victory of the Scots at Preston Pans. Darkly mysterious papers are hinted at by James Macgregor, son of the redoubtable Rob Roy, who cherishes a prejudice against Lord Lovat, Chief of the Fraser Clan.

The headquarters of the Scottish army before Stirling Castle are shown in the second act, and the Chiefs have decided to retreat to the North, sorely against the desire of their Prince. Mackenzie's fell designs are so far advanced as to implicate by means of forged letters the fair Flora Macdonald in both amorous and traitorous intrigues, and there is a stormy interview between Alan Macdonald, Flora's betrothed, and the Prince, to whom the fictitious love-letter is addressed.

In the third act the battle of Culloden has been fought, and Prince Charlie, with his army dispersed, takes refuge in the house of Lord Lovat, whence the English soldiers are brought by Mackenzie, unaware that the Prince is there; but Alan Macdonald changes coats with the Prince, and he escapes by a secret passage.

The pursuit of the Prince is continued unrelentingly in the last act, his enemies being guided by a spy named Pickle, hitherto an accomplice of Mackenzie. But the latter has repented of his treason to his country, and after stabbing Pickle, who attempts to kill him unawares, Mackenzie begs to be allowed to accompany the Prince to France. The latter, however, will have none of him, and Mackenzie departs dejectedly, while Prince Charlie embarks sorrowfully on his exile.

The piece was acted more or less ably by members of the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers, the services of the promoter being in frequent requisition. Private J. A. Bentham was the embodiment of chivalry as the "Bonnie Prince," and delivered his lines with admirable elocution. Miss Mary Allestree gave strength to the performance by a sweet and sympathetic rendering of Flora, and Miss Spencer-Brunton delivered herself excellently of the one long speech which is permitted her as a spiteful lady of the Court. Lance-Sergeant Duncan Tovey played with his accustomed ability as Lord Lovat, and a droll exposition of an attendant was given by Private R. Wilson Simpson, Private Louis Weirter being equally commendable as a spy. Sergeant George Kerr Smith gave a powerful rendering of James Macgregor, becoming greatly pathetic at the close. Dismal attempts at humour were made by Lance-Sergeant Piper Kenneth McNiven as an Irish officer, who constantly lost his lines, and seldom found his brogue; and the rôle of Alan Macdonald suffered from excess of fervour on the part of his exponent. The piece, which was elaborately dressed and mounted, was given again on Friday, and will be repeated this afternoon and evening.

MISS GRACE WARNER is paying a return visit to the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Windsor, with *The Little Widow*, *East Lynne*, *My Artful Valet*, and *The Scarlet Clue*. In the first-named work Miss Grace Warner plays Mrs. Constance Rattlebrain (the Little Widow) with delightful vivacity and verve; Mr. George Gordon is highly diverting as Mr. Wilkins Potter; and Mr. St. Bernard Wyntour presents an excellent study of the young medical student, Dr. Arthur Potter. Mr. Dan Clifford as Auguste Bousier; and Mr. Leighton Leigh as Morton, render skilful service by their respective impersonations. Mrs. Wilkins Potter is smartly impersonated by Miss May Dallas; Miss Maud Warburton is bright and pleasing as Emily Randal; and Miss Kathleen Cranston is a most amusing Sophonisba.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association held on Tuesday Winifred Ingham, Stanley Ronald, Marie A. Lorraine Stevens, and Gertrude Booth were nominated for election. The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters, and were requested to make certain claims on behalf of members. Dr. Proctor, of Derby, was elected successor to Dr. Bryson (who is leaving the town) as an hon. medical officer to the Association. A letter from Mr. B. Soane Roby was read, and the secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt. Two former members were reinstated.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HENRY IRVING, on Monday, left Wolverhampton for Torquay, where he will remain till the end of April. The eminent actor, who has, we are rejoiced to hear, greatly improved in health, drove from his hotel to the station in a closed carriage, and was accompanied on to the platform by his medical attendant, Dr. Lloyd Davies, and by Mr. Percy Percival, the manager of the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. Profound regret has been occasioned by Sir Henry's enforced abandonment of his intention to appear with his company at the Shakespeare Commemoration Festival at Stratford-on-Avon, on the 24th of next month. It may, however, be confidently expected that he will be able to fulfil his season at Drury-lane at Easter, the répertoire of which will consist chiefly of revivals of the Lyceum triumphs, of which *Louis XI.*, *The Bells*, *Charles I.*, and *The Merchant of Venice* will be distinguished examples. Sir Henry's medical adviser being anxious that all risks of travel should be avoided, the visit to America has been postponed till the autumn of next year.

AT the conclusion of the Playgoers' Club dinner at the Hotel Cecil on Monday, Mr. Israel Zangwill made a remarkable offer. After stating that what he believed was wanted was not a Repertory Theatre, but a playhouse for the performance of the works of young and comparatively unknown dramatists, he offered to put down £200 to give such an enterprise a start. Mr. Alfred Sutro followed suit with a promise of another £200. The theatre in question, said Mr. Zangwill, should be governed by one man, and he severely deprecated the rule of a committee.

THE Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund informs us that the actors' Saturday lists are coming to hand very slowly, although some of those already received show an improvement upon the last lists. Mr. Henry Dana has collected at His Majesty's Theatre the sum of £88 3s., and Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley has sent in £38 12s., his collection at the St. James's Theatre. Mr. Edward Compton has forwarded £9 6s. 6d., which he states he had great difficulty in collecting from the members of his comedy company, and he states that in future he thinks of making it a rule only to engage those members of the profession who subscribe something to the Fund. Mr. Robert Arthur has sent the Fund a further sum of £5, which he has collected at the Kennington Theatre by making a charge of twopence upon each professional free admission. Mr. Arthur Garrett, manager for Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, has sent £3 10s. to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, the amount having been obtained by the sale of their autographs.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, at the invitation of Mr. Beerbohm Tree, repeated his address, "Dramatic Thoughts: Retrospective—Anticipative"—which we print in full elsewhere—on Tuesday afternoon to the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art in His Majesty's Theatre. At the close of the lecture Mr. Tree, on behalf of the Academy, thanked Sir Squire Bancroft for his earnest and eloquent words, which he was sure would be of abiding use to all who heard them. Referring to Sir Squire's disbelief in the practicability of a national theatre, Mr. Tree said he did not quite agree with what had been urged. For the present, however, actors and managers were determined to do their best to give the British public as much as it deserved, and even more. He (Mr. Tree) was doing something towards providing a répertoire theatre, and on the whole he thought the English theatre was doing pretty well. With regard to the opposition from the Puritan faction, they knew that a survival or revival was going on, but he did not think any good came of hysteria. Their art was above narrow dogma. He sincerely thanked Sir Squire Bancroft for giving them of the riches of his mind and experience, and they *trusted* that his powers would remain long unimpaired.

THE plans which were drawn up a short time ago by Mr. W. G. R. Sprague for Mr. Charles Frohman's new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue have been passed by the London County Council. The site which Mr. Frohman has secured faces the Trocadero Restaurant, and it is hoped that the theatre will be ready for opening in August next year. No name has yet been definitely decided upon.

THE *Sydney Bulletin* tells an anecdote of an Australian operatic manager, who, having successfully staged *Moses in Egypt*, was asked to grant an audience to a deputation of Melbourne clergy. The interview took place in the box-office, and the spokesman pointed out that the deputation was horror-stricken at the representation of a Biblical incident on the stage, that the whole production was profane and blasphemous, and that the manager's conduct would inflict a deep and lasting injury upon true religion. The manager listened patiently to the end. Then he said:—"Gentlemen, in my opinion, you are the meanest lot of skunks I've ever met. Here have you been living on the Lord all your lives; and you begrudge me making a few pounds out of Moses."

THE Waldorf Theatre, which Messrs. Schubert, the proprietors, intend to open in May with an opera, has a frontage of 70 feet to Aldwych and 160 feet to Catherine-street. It will be a three-tier house, Louis XIV. decorations throughout, and there will be no columns of any kind. The stage measures 40 feet by 70 feet, and will be replete with every modern convenience. There will be a large crush room, 30 feet by 20 feet, and a marble staircase will lead directly from the dress circle to the stalls, pit, and gallery, from Catherine-street.

THE Hicks Theatre, which is also in Aldwych, has a similar elevation to the Waldorf, this arrangement having been effected in order to make one harmonious block, with a large hotel, which is being erected between the two playhouses, and which will also be called the Waldorf Hotel. Mr. Seymour Hicks hopes to open his new theatre at Christmas, and as the building operations are now in full swing—the foundations and brick work being nearly up to ground level—there is every likelihood of Mr. Hicks being able to carry out his present intention.

ALL the six new theatres are being erected according to the designs and under the supervision of Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, who, by the way, has already built twenty music halls and theatres in London, as well as many in the provinces.

MRS. BEERBOHM TREE graced by her presence the first reception of the season given by Lady Hayter at her residence in Grosvenor-square on the 17th inst. Mr. Beerbohm Tree was on Tuesday afternoon at the annual Court of Governors of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic nominated a vice-president in acknowledgment of signal services rendered.

GENEROSITY is always rewarded sooner or later. Back in January Sir Charles Wyndham sent across from America £100 for the poor of West Ham; and now we hear that he has netted several thousand dollars "on" Wall-street, the New York Stock Exchange. "The givin' hand is aye gettin'."

MISS ANNA ROBINSON, who was married on Monday to Lord Rosslyn, made her appearance on Sept. 14, 1901, at the Criterion Theatre, where she played the part of Melpomene, in Mr. R. C. Carton's not too successful piece, *The Undercurrent*, and made a delightful, fresh, free, and frank American girl.

MR. H. B. CONWAY, for whom Miss Annie Hughes and Sir Squire Bancroft are arranging a benefit on April 4th, was born in 1850, and was educated at Rossall School and the University of Berlin. He first appeared at the Olympic Theatre, in the November of 1872, as Bernard, in Dubourg's play, *Without Love*. After a "generally useful" experience, he enacted Dick Dowlais in *The Heir-at-Law* at the Haymarket in 1875; and, at the same house, greatly distinguished himself as Romeo.. At the Lyceum he appeared with great credit as Faust in Sir Henry Irving's magnificent production of the drama. Mr. Conway has a devoted wife in Miss Kate Phillips.

MISS MARIE TEMPEST brings to a close on April 5 the successful run of *The Freedom of Suzanne* at the Criterion, and sails on the following Saturday for New York, where the comedy will be given for four weeks at the Empire Theatre. Mr. Frohman has assured himself of the smooth working of every detail by sending out all the properties and scenery, together with the business staff and stage mechanics. Miss Tempest returns to London at the end of May, and on June 3 the run of her husband's successful play will be resumed. Meanwhile, Mr. Frank Curzon has arranged for the Criterion to be occupied at Easter by Miss Ethel Irving, who will produce a new modern comedy by Madame De Gressac—authoress of the French original of *The Marriage of Kitty*—and Mr. Pierre Weber, entitled *Chou*, the English version of which is by Mr. Charles Brookfield.

THE late Sir Augustus Harris's residence, The Elms, Avenue-road, Regent's Park, with grounds of about an acre, is to be offered by auction at the Mart on April 11, and on Monday, the Grand Theatre, Llandudno, a building capable of holding 1,200 people, comes under the hammer.

IN the House of Commons, on Monday evening, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, member for the Strand, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he had been requested to grant an annual subsidy towards the permanent establishment of a National Repertory Theatre, provided a proportion of the funds required is guaranteed by members of the public interested in its establishment, and, if so, could he state the answer which he gave to that request. Mr. Austen Chamberlain sent the following written reply:—"Yes, I have been requested to lay before His Majesty's Government a proposal to grant an annual subsidy of £10,000 towards the permanent establishment of a National Repertory Theatre in the West-end of London. I have replied that I am unable to recommend such a grant from public funds." The reply in question was forwarded to Mr. Walter Stephens.

THOSE who see *Du Barry* at the Savoy will notice the incident of the indignant orator at the *fête* who denounces the King and Court for starving the people. This is historically correct. One of the methods by which the country was bled was what was bitterly called the "Compact" of Famine." This was nothing less than a gigantic "corner" in wheat, organised by the Government. Immense quantities of corn were bought up with the public money, and deposited in various places, notably the islands of Jersey and Guernsey. An artificial scarcity was thus created; and then the gang sold the wheat at their own prices. Louis XV., and even Louis XVI., were in the Compact "up to their necks." The French Government, indeed, anticipated, in their arrangements, the idea of Mr. Cecil Raleigh's *Great Millionaire*.

MR. HALL CAINE is assuming at Monte Carlo the necessary local colour for his gambling scene in *The Prodigal Son*, which is to serve as the autumn attraction at Drury-lane. Guided by an expert in the art of the gaming table, Mr. Caine is visiting all the most notorious baccarat resorts in the Riviera, where he takes up his stand behind a friend's chair, and watches him count his gains or losses according to the Fates' decree. On Tuesday, at Nice, Mr. Caine's companion took the latter course to the tune of over £2,000.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL, who we are glad to hear is fully recovered from the injury which she sustained some weeks ago in Philadelphia, made her reappearance in *The Sorceress* at the Powers Theatre, Chicago, on the 6th inst., and had a cordial welcome from a large audience.

MR. MURRAY CARSON began an engagement at the Princess Theatre, New York, on the 16th inst., under the management of Messrs. Shubert Bros. He appeared in a comedy called *The Trifler*, and was supported by Miss Esmé Beringer and an American company.

WE regret to record the death, on Sunday last, of Miss Louie Coote. This clever young actress, who had been suffering from acute pneumonia, will be best remembered by her appearance at the Gaiety Theatre in *The Shop Girl* and *The Circus Girl*.

THE Marlow Public Hall, Ltd., was registered on March 8 with a capital of £1,200 in £1 shares. The object is to acquire and turn to account a public hall, to organise concerts and other entertainments, and to carry on the business of refreshment contractors and caterers, &c., the sale of intoxicating liquors being prohibited. There is no initial public issue. The first directors, who are to number not less than three nor more than seven, are J. Thomas, J. Dorsett, and W. J. Morgan, and the qualification is £25.

MR. CHARLES MACDONA has many companies on the road just now, and in his spare time is seen playing in one of them. Although a very busy man, he still finds time to give occasional performances of his favourite part, the Major, in *The Gay Parisienne*. This well-known piece is at present touring in the suburbs, and Mr. Macdona will be playing two or three nights next week at Kennington. Amongst the members of the company are Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Marie Daltra. Mr. Rignold's old association with the piece is well remembered. He was the original Honeycombe. Miss Marie Daltra's name is, of course, familiar in connection with the part of the Mother-in-Law, which she played throughout the run of *A Chinese Honeymoon* at the Strand. Miss Gwennie Harcourt (a favourite in the provinces) and Miss Isabelle Dillon are also in the cast; and the Imperial Glee Singers, whose connection with Mr. Macdona's company has extended over so many years, still form part of the very entertaining combination.

THE first appearance of Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company in the provinces in *The Tempest* took place on Monday, at the Theatre Royal, Hull. Mr. Morton, tempted by the success of the répertoire visit, had invited subscriptions, the result being so satisfactory that when the curtain rose on Monday evening a house representing the best of Hull society gave the artistes a warm and generous reception.

THE opening scene of the shipwreck was immensely admired. The people of a seaport are naturally critics in all that concerns the sea; but not an adverse word could be launched against the representation of the storm-tossed vessel. Caliban was admirably played by Mr. G. W. Anson. Miss Norah Kerin was sweetly sympathetic as Miranda; the Ariel of Miss Hocy was delightful; and there was a manly charm about Mr. Ian Penny's Ferdinand. A capital couple of comedians were Messrs. C. Bibby, the Trinculo, and Mr. T. P. Haynes, the Stephano. Mr. Haviland was an excellent Prospero. As an artistic treat the visit of *The Tempest* will long be remembered by Hull playgoers.

THE "Shakespeare Ball" which will be given at the Empress Rooms of the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, on Thursday, May 4, in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, will be a unique function. It is under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, H.H. Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, His Excellency the Chinese Minister and Madame Chang, and other distinguished persons; and among those associated with the dramatic and musical professions who give their support are Madame Albani, Miss Dorothea Baird, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Nina Boucicault, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mrs. Brown-Potter, Mrs. Hayden Coffin, Mrs. Charles Calvert, Mrs. Craigie, Mrs. Frank Curzon, Miss Winifred Emery, Mrs. C. T. Helmsley, Miss Granville, Mrs. Martin Harvey, Mrs. W. F. Halliday, Mrs. Frederick Kerr, Mrs. B. A. Meyer, Miss Julia Neilson, Mrs. T. P. O'Connor, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Lottie Venne, Mrs. James Welch, Captain Robert Marshall, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. W. Graham Brown, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Mr. Mervyn Dene, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. John Hare, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Carl Hentschel, Mr. W. F. Halliday, Mr. Charles T. Helmsley, Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. Frederick Kerr, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Akerman May, Mr. B. A. Meyer, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Sydney Paxton, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. J. L. Toole, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. H. B. Warner, Mr. Charles Warner, Mr. James Welch, and Mr. Huntley Wright.

MISS ELLEN TERRY has kindly promised her help at the concert at Stafford House, on Tuesday afternoon, April 11, in aid of the Oxygen Hospital. Miss Lena Ashwell and Miss Viola Tree have also consented to assist, and the programme will be further strengthened by Mr. Andrew Black, Mr. Hamilton Earle, and Mr. Maurice Farkoa. The new comedy by Mr. J. M. Barrie, in which Miss Terry and Miss Irene Vanbrugh are to appear at the Duke of York's, will be produced on April 5.

MR. LEWIS WALLER will revive *Monsieur Beaucaire* at the Imperial on Thursday, with Miss Eva Moore as Lady Mary Carlisle. On Tuesday, the last night of *Henry V.*, each member of the audience will be presented with a portrait of Mr. Waller in the title-rôle of Shakespeare's play. The last performance of *Henry V.* will be at the matinée the following day. *Romeo and Juliet* is set down for April 22.

THE Ilford Dramatic Club, by arrangement with Mrs. Read, gave an entertainment to the in-patients of the Cancer Free Hospital, Fulham-road, on the evening of Thursday, March 16. The piece presented was Mrs. R. Pacheco's farcical comedy, *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, the amusing character of which was intensified by the clever acting of the various artistes, and repeated applause bore ample testimony to the enjoyment of the audience. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded on the proposition of the secretary, Mr. F. W. Howell, and the singing of the National Anthem concluded a very successful evening.

MR. LOUIS CALVERT, in addition to assisting Mr. Beerbohm Tree in his Shakespearian productions, and acting at His Majesty's and Court Theatres, also finds time to direct several of his own touring companies, one of which, playing *Sunday*, will be seen shortly at the Brixton Theatre, with Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay, daughter of the late Madame Antoinette Sterling, in the title-rôle.

MR. GEORGE ASHTON, of Ashton's Royal Agency, took the chair at the House Dinner at the Eccentric Club, on Wednesday, the 15th inst., and a programme was given including some of the most popular theatrical and variety artists now engaged in London. It was considered to be the record concert of the Club.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON will celebrate, at the King's Theatre, Kilmarnock, on Monday evening, his 1,200th appearance as David Garrick. Mr. Compton has recently beaten his records at the Lyceum, Edinburgh, and the Opera House, Perth, and hopes to do the same at the Paisley Theatre, where he finishes a week's engagement to-night.

MISS TITA BRAND is busily rehearsing the production of *Othello* at the Shaftesbury Theatre, in which her assumption of Desdemona is awaited with great interest. Mr. Hubert Carter, whose good work with Miss Ellen Terry will be remembered, will be the Othello, and an Amelia new to London will be seen in Miss Charlotte Granville. Mr. Henry Ainley, by the kind permission of Mr. Charles Frohman, has the rôle of Cassio, Mr. J. H. Barnes will be the Iago, Miss Lydia Busch the Bianca, and others in the cast include Mr. George Trollope, Mr. Jules Shaw, and Mr. Frederick Annersley.

A VERY fine picture of Mr. William Mollison in the character of Pistol, in *Henry V.*, by Mr. George Henry, the well-known portrait-painter, will be exhibited in the New Gallery in the course of the season.

MR. J. W. HEMMING, who produced the pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, last Christmas, has just taken over the management of Mr. Fred Karno's *His Majesty's Guests* company, which is this week at Ebbw Vale, Monmouth.

MESSRS. WARDEN, LIMITED, lessees of the Theatre Royal, Belfast, were successful in an action for £20 damages, recently brought against them for wrongful refusal to admit the plaintiff, Mr. William A. Ross, barrister-at-law, who contended that an increase in the price of admission was not sufficiently advertised. The judge held that the distribution of 1,200 bills was sufficient publicity, and dismissed the case on its merits.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales were present on Monday night at the Apollo Theatre, and witnessed the performance of *Véronique*.

MISS ADA MANSFIELD who is appearing in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, at the Criterion, will not be amongst those accompanying Miss Marie Tempest on her approaching visit to America.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM, who is concluding a highly successful eight months' engagement in the title-rôle of *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*, has been engaged by Miss Tita Brand for her season at the Shaftesbury Theatre.—Miss Ruth Shepherd has been re-engaged by Messrs. Michelson and Fineberg to play the lead in their autumn tour of *The Traitor*.

MR. FRITZ ZORN'S new farcical comedy, *The Designers*, recently produced at the Brixton Theatre, will conclude a successful "trial trip" in the provinces at the Lyric Theatre, Bromley, next week. The piece has been favourably received in all the towns visited, and is to be sent out for a longer tour later on in the year.

MR. ALFRED LESTER has arranged to run a six weeks' stock season of costume plays at the Grand Theatre, Swansea, next June and July, opening on June 19. Mr. Lester has a busy summer in front of him, as he is also running a six weeks' season at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, opening on the same date. Mr. Ernest K. Nelson will stage manage at Swansea, and Mr. Lester himself will supervise at Sheffield.

"THE PILGRIM'S WAY," the three-act musical allegory by D. Elliot, will be begun at the Court Theatre on Monday evening, with a matinée on Saturday. The story is an idyllic one, and tells of the abiding influence of love throughout a tempest of tribulation. An excellent cast includes Madame Louise Dale, Miss Gleeson-White, Miss Janet Duff, Miss Phyllis Lett, Miss de Dreux, and Mr. Hamilton Earle, and the orchestra will be under the direction of Mr. Alick Maclean.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, whose Hamlet is awaited with great interest, will present it at the Lyric on May 22. Mr. Harvey's season there ends in July, after which the theatre will go back to musical plays, a work by two well-known writers being secured for its reopening in September.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT, always abreast with the times, has had an attack of influenza, and was obliged to remain at home after the matinée of *Angelo, the Tyrant of Padua*, at her theatre in Paris on Monday, but is happily expected to resume work immediately. The famous actress has arranged to appear at the Albert Hall shortly for one night only, in aid of a hospital, *Angelo* being the play in which she will perform. That exciting piece will also form part of her répertoire when she visits the Coronet Theatre in June, *La Sorcière* and *Adrienne Lecouvreur* being also selected. A new play, *La Cicatrice*, by her son Maurice, is in contemplation, and the great French tragedienne will be joined by an equally celebrated English actress, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, in *Peleas and Mélisande*.

THE estate of the late Mr. James Macdonald Hardie, of 2, Prospect-vale, Fairfield, Liverpool, managing-director of the Shakespeare Theatre Co., Ltd., and for many years prominently associated with theatrical enterprises in London, Liverpool, and Manchester, has been proved at £2,364.

REHEARSALS of *Leah Kleschna*, the production of which Mr. Charles Frohman has fixed for Easter Monday, are already in progress at the New Theatre, many of Sir Charles Wyndham's company having arrived from America on Wednesday. Their distinguished chief will be able to take part in the preparations for the play at an early date, and high hopes may be formed that the powerful character of Paul Sylvaine will prove one of the finest dramatic treats of the many which Sir Charles has contributed to the contemporary stage. Miss Lena Ashwell will also have exceptional opportunities in the title-rôle, and Mr. Norman McKinnell, Mr. William Devereux, and Mr. Alfred Bishop will be included in the cast.

MR. HENRY RUSSELL will put into practice an elaborate scheme at Messrs. Shubert Brothers' new Waldorf Theatre in Aldwych, which is announced to open about the middle of May. Grand Italian opera will alternate with the highest form of dramatic art, and arrangements have already been made for Madame Eleonora Duse, Madame Calvé, Miss Alice Nielsen, Miss Mary Garden, M. Edouard De Reszke, Signor Ancona, Signor Bonci, and Signor De Lucia to appear in their most popular rôles. The list of operas includes *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Orfeo*, *Pagliacci*, *L'Amico Fritz*, and *Il Maestro di Capella*, and Signora Duse will rely to a large extent upon her old répertoire. No advance on the ordinary prices of a West-end theatre will be made, and while 10s. 6d. will be charged for a stall, the humble patron may have his seat in the gallery for the usual shilling.

MR. OTHO STUART has again given opportunities to a number of students and teachers from various schools, together with nurses from some of the London hospitals, to witness the dress rehearsal of *Hamlet* at the Adelphi, on the afternoon of April 3.

MISS ADA CROSSLEY, the famous Australian contralto, is to be married shortly to Mr. Francis Muecke, of Adelaide, whom she met on board a homeward-bound liner. It is ten years since Miss Crossley made her début in London, and at once attained a place in the front rank of vocalists, the St. James's Hall and the Crystal Palace witnessing some of her most brilliant achievements. Miss Crossley is a native of Gippsland, a rugged district of Victoria, New South Wales, where she received her early musical education, and was afterwards appointed chief contralto in the "Australian Church" at Melbourne, where she won great distinction. She studied in London with Charles Santley, and subsequently in Paris with Madame Marchesi. Her success at the Popular and Ballad concerts is a matter of general knowledge, and fortunately it is not to end with her marriage, for the eminent vocalist will not retire from the musical platform. Dr. Muecke is a graduate of Adelaide University, and is at present pursuing medical studies at the London Hospital.

MR. CHARLES MACDONA has arranged with Mr. A. E. Eliot, the new lessee of the New Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, to undertake for him the booking of this beautiful place of entertainment from the commencement of his tenancy, March 25. For the summer season, Mr. Macdona has been able to arrange for six or seven of his own "chief" companies, and also for most of the principal touring attractions available. Ramsgate, in and out of the season, is a very good business town. There is a resident population of between 30,000 and 40,000, and in the season this increases to between some 80,000 and 100,000. The New Pavilion is on the sea front, and can accommodate 4,000 people easily. The enterprise Mr. Macdona has shown in connection with his own touring companies and theatres, and the great experience he possesses of "things theatrical," both as theatre proprietor and touring manager, should be of great assistance to him in his new venture.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH and MR. MARK BLOW will produce on Monday, for the first time in London, at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, a romantic costume play by the late Charles Rogers, entitled *In the King's Name*. Mr. Blow will sustain a dual rôle—that of twin brothers; one, a King's officer, and the other a highwayman.

THE Osmond Tearle Shakespearian and Classical répertoire company gave a special "school" matinée of *As You Like It*, at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, on Saturday last. It was extensively patronised by members of local scholastic establishments. The incidental glees and part songs were admirably rendered by the Imperial Quartette, Messrs Brooke Flowers, J. W. Alderson, Walter Tate, and Archibald Holder, and were enthusiastically encored.

MR. CYRIL GRIER, on Saturday last, at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, after playing the Banished Duke in *As You Like It* at a special matinée, was unexpectedly called upon to enact Macbeth at night. This he did with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the management.

MR. CHARLES HANNAN'S three-act adaptation of *The Vicar of Wakefield*, entitled *Sweet Olivia*, will be produced for the first time in London next Wednesday evening, March 29, at the West London Theatre by Mr. Hoggan Armadale. Originally in the Ben Greet repertory, and subsequently purchased for Africa by Mr. W. N. Holloway, *Sweet Olivia* has been constantly performed by Mr. Armadale in the provinces for more than two years past.

ANOTHER of Mr. Charles Hannan's plays, which is shortly to be produced, is entitled *The Whitechapel King*, and this has just been secured by Mr. Samuel James for presentation about Easter at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

THE return of Sir Charles Wyndham to the New Theatre will bring to a termination the run of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, with which Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry bid fair to attract for many more months. The enforced conclusion will come about on April 22, and will be the third occasion on which the talented couple have had to give way to similar circumstances in the height of success. The first was at the Haymarket, when *Sweet Nell of Old Drury* had to make way for the return of the Haymarket management, the second when again *Sweet Nell* had to leave the Globe Theatre by order of the London County Council, and now *The Scarlet Pimpernel* is also to be placed in forced retirement. The company will not, however, be disbanded, as a short tour has been hurriedly booked, commencing on Easter Monday. It is to be hoped that when Miss Neilson and Mr. Terry return for their next London season, they will have found a permanent home which they are now endeavouring to secure.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE, having experimented with Shakespeare minus scenery, will restore all his scenic embellishments on Monday evening, when *Hamlet* will be given at His Majesty's Theatre, with the usual elaborate mounting. This afternoon *Much Ado About Nothing* will be played, but will be replaced in the evening by *A Man's Shadow*, in which Mr. Tree will repeat his remarkable performance of a dual rôle. *Trilby* will be revived on Monday week.

MISS MAXINE ELLIOTT is, by the enterprise of Mr. Tom B. Davis, to come to London and begin at the Lyric Theatre on Easter Monday, a four weeks' season with *Her Own Way*, the four-act piece by Clyde Fitch, which has attained a run of two years in America. Miss Elliott, whose season will be under the direction of Mr. Charles B. Dillingham, will bring over her own company, and the representation of the comedy will be identical with that in New York. Her company will include Mesdames Fanny Addison Pitt, Nellie Thorne, Georgie Lawrence, Clara Mesereau, Suzanne Perry; Messrs. Charles Cherry, James Carew, R. C. Herz, and Frederick Wallace.

MR. BERNARD SHAW'S satire, *How He Lied to Her Husband*, was added on Tuesday to the programme at the St. James's Theatre, where an attractive triple bill is formed in conjunction with *A Maker of Men* and *Mollentrave on Women*, in the cast of which Miss Marion Terry makes a welcome reappearance after her recent illness. The audience on Tuesday gave convincing proof of their appreciation of Mr. Shaw's play, in which Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. A. G. Poulton, and Miss Gertrude Kingston repeat their previous clever performance.

MISS EDNA MAY will not appear in Mr. A. E. W. Mason's new play, as was anticipated, but a year hence will begin a season that will include comedy, musical comedy, and comic opera, here, at the Vaudeville, under Messrs. Frohman and Gatti. The part she was to create in Mr. Mason's play, which is entitled *Marjory Strode*, will be taken up by another young actress whom Mr. Frohman may be trusted to find, and next season both London and New York will witness its production.

MR. ERNEST STEVENS has this week established a record for early bookings at his elegant Brixton Theatre, for seats have been booked at the box office by his Brixton patrons for his forthcoming Christmas pantomime of *Cinderella*.

YORICK LODGE OF FREEMASONRY, 2,771, of which Mr. J. Bannister Howard has been the Worshipful Master for the last twelve months, held a meeting on Tuesday to instal the new Worshipful Master, Mr. E. Lockwood. The ceremony was performed by Mr. W. S. Penley, Past Grand Treasurer, who is a Past Master of the lodge. Mr. Bannister Howard took his position of Immediate Past Master. To assist the new Master the other brethren who become officers were Messrs. Clarence Sounes, George Robins, W. S. Penley (P.G. Treasurer), Treasurer, Alderman F. Trehawke Davies, P.M., Secretary, Duncan Tovey, F. T. Addyman, Athelstane Nobbs, M.D., Alexander Watson, Prov. S.G.W., Bucks, A. J. Winter, A. P. Oxley, E. H. Bull, W. Payne Seddon, W. Bradford Smith, and J. W. Freeman, P.M., Tyler. In the absence of Mr. Alexander Watson, D.G., Mr. Bannister Howard (who in the course of the evening was presented with a Past Master's jewel) undertook the duties of Director of Ceremonies. He is at the present time W.M. of Lodge La Tolérance, 538. The list of visitors included the names of Messrs. A. Courtenay Peach, S.W., 12; W. Singleton Hooper, P.M., 1,887; Dr. Sam Lloyd, P.M., 1,201; J. W. Matthews, P.M., 1,319; H. Newland, W.M., 2,925; R. S. King, W.M., 2,488; Arthur John Turk, 1,608; and F. Clare Melhado, P.M., 143.

A CONCERT in which the Dowager Countess of Lytton is interested will take place at the Hotel Cecil, on Tuesday, in aid of the Holborn Deanery Association for the Care of Friendless Girls. Princess Christian will be present, and the programme will include songs by Madame Albani, Mesdames Ada Crossley, Viola Tree, and Muriel Foster, Mr. Gordon Cleather, and Mr. Maurice Farkoa. Miss Marie Tempest, who has not appeared on a concert platform for two years, will sing; a duet will be contributed by Madame Albani and Miss Ada Crossley, and Mr. George Alexander will give some recitations.

"LADY BEN," the new comedy by George Pleydell Bancroft, will be produced at the Comedy Theatre on Tuesday, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Kerr. Mr. Arthur Bertram is manager for Mr. Frank Curzon.

MR. ARTHUR BERTRAM is so gratified with the success of *Hearts Adrift*, that he has decided to produce during the autumn a drama entitled *Queen of My Heart*, by Gordon Holmes, and probably another in the spring called *The Little Mother*, by the same author. Mr. Holmes is also the author of *The Convict's Daughter*, which Mr. Frank Bertram has toured for nearly two years.

AT Drury-lane Theatre on Thursday, the silver wedding-day of Mr. Sidney Smith, the business manager, some of the artistes in the last pantomime, the executive staff of the National Theatre, and a few friends, who had subscribed for a diamond and pearl pendant for Mrs. Smith and a gold and platinum dress chain for her husband, presented their offerings, the presentation, in the absence abroad of Mr. Arthur Collins, being made by Mr. Alec Knowles. Among those who assembled in the saloon were Miss Queenie Leighton, Miss Marie George, Mrs. Lane-Joynt, and Messrs. Hickory Wood, J. M. Glover, Johnny Danvers, H. J. Ward, Ernest D'Auban, Bruce Smith, Carle Coppi, R. H. Linde, C. F. Taylor, C. H. Thomas, and Adrian Collins.

MESSRS. CECIL BARTH AND A. S. HOMEWOOD have acquired the entire rights for Great Britain, Ireland, and America of the successful farcical comedy, *Brown at Brighton*, originally produced at the Avenue Theatre. Arrangements are being made for autumn tours in this country, and for placing the play in America.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S West Indian company will be back in England again about the middle of April, after having had a really marvellous tour in the West Indies, playing all along to crowded houses. No rest will be permitted for the company, which will immediately start a six weeks' tour, commencing on April 24, at Tunbridge Wells, where the week's programme will comprise the most notable of Shakespeare's works.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT'S DRAMATIC THOUGHTS.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT delivered a most interesting discourse at the Royal Institution, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, on the 17th inst., entitled "Dramatic Thoughts: Retrospective and Anticipative." The lecture was listened to with intense interest by a distinguished assemblage.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT said:—My business with the drama this evening is not to hold a brief in its defence. It speaks for itself—trumpet-tongued—and if life in this world were to be spent in parting the tares from the wheat in all things, I doubt if even the Bible would quite escape the process. I am told there are spots on the sun. "The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good and ill together; our virtues would be proud if our faults whipped them not; and our vices would despair if they were not cherished by our virtues." Words which remind me that England is not only the mother of the stage, at least in Europe, but the parent of the greatest dramatic writer the world has known; whose glory does not come from that sort of knowledge which teaching can impart, but from that sort of knowledge which no learning can ever teach; whose commanding power can, alike, transport with rapture or enthral with awe. It is easy to credit the legend that while writing the scene between the Ghost and Hamlet the poet passed a long night alone in Westminster Abbey. His name inspires the players with lasting gratitude, for his works have made their craft eternal and they must share the pride I feel to have been what William Shakespeare was—an actor.

Splendid as is the array which might be drawn from other lands, I contend it would be hard to name finer tragic players than Thomas Betterton, David Garrick, Edmund Kean, and Sarah Siddons. If to that great quartet, I have not added the name of John Philip Kemble, it is only because the palm must be given to his still greater sister. They possessed the power of acting which can so entrance the spectator as to almost turn shadow into substance. Addison said of Betterton: such an actor ought to be recorded with the same respect as Roscius among the Romans. Pope said of Garrick: he never had his equal and would never have a rival. Byron said of Kean: he was life, nature, truth, without exaggeration or diminution. Talfourd said of Siddons: she was the greatest tragic actress of whom there is any trace in memory. The ashes of Betterton and Garrick, with those of Henderson—only his second as an actor, while as a reader he surpassed him—of the silver-toned Barry, best of all the Romeos, with their gifted sisters in art, Mistress Bracegirdle, Mistress Oldfield, and Mistress Pritchard, rest—if I can correctly remember the words of an eloquent American—in that grandest of mausoleums where the proudest of nations garners the memories of its most honoured children. Yes, there, in the Abbey and its cloisters, alike with Kings and Queens, with warriors and statesmen, with poets and philosophers, with men of science and men of letters, those renowned players are now "such stuff as dreams are made of, and their little life is rounded with a sleep."

"Look at life, it is a comedy: think of it, it is a tragedy." By the way, you may know well that Voltaire in his anxiety not to imperil the success he had achieved in tragedy, when he wrote his first comedy did so anonymously. The main plot of a tragedy is generally the consideration of whether one or more of its principal characters shall, or shall not, commit murder; the main plot of a comedy, until recent years, being whether one or more of the couples concerned in it should or should not commit matrimony: and the curtain fell upon the expected sound of wedding bells. To jump for a moment to the present time, that is no longer the method; nowadays plays begin where they used to end; when the curtain rises, more frequently than not, the last strain of Mendelssohn's march has long since died away, and we look upon what has occurred "for better or worse." Tragedy, when true, must ever command our admiration, but as one loves the sunshine better than the shade, I pay my homage to the allurement, the enchantment of Anne Bracegirdle—the darling of the theatre in her day; to Nance Oldfield—perhaps the most beautiful woman who ever trod the English stage:

"Each look, each attitude, new grace displays,
Her voice and motion life and music raise."

To Catherine Clive, whose transcendent talents compelled Dr. Johnson to describe her as the best actress he ever saw: adding that what Kitty Clive did best she did even better than David Garrick, but could not do half so many things well. To Margaret Woffington: a most enchanting and very witty woman, whose brilliant career was achieved despite the drawback of a harsh, unmusical voice. She earned this tribute:

"Nor was her worth to public scenes confin'd;
She knew the noblest feelings of the mind;
Her ears were ever open to distress,
Her ready hand was ever stretch'd to bless."

To Dorothy Jordan, truly an extraordinary, an exquisite creature: superior to all her contemporaries in her particular line of acting. It was said that Mother Nature had formed her when in a happy and prodigal mood; and when really in the humour to make a delightful woman she can do it supremely. What would we not give to summon those Queens of Comedy from the Silent Land and see them act! But, alas! no wealth could buy for us a single echo of their once merry voices, nor kindle one spark of the divine fire which burnt in all of them.

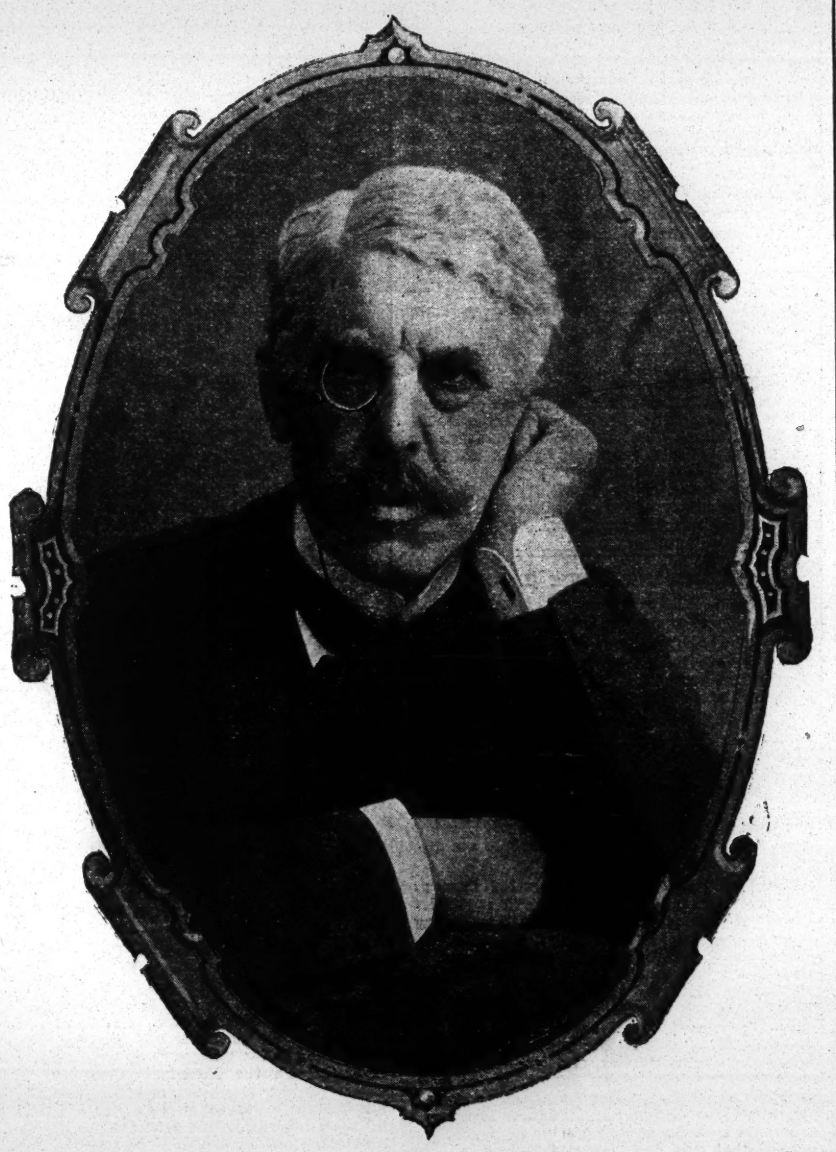
THE "PALMY DAYS."

Deep as is my respect, profound as is my admiration, for the leaders in "the palmy days," "the good old times," I know well that such sayings are the tiresome chorus attached to other callings than the stage—the lawyer, the soldier, the painter, even the bishop, is as much haunted by them as the actor, who from time immemorial has listened to the cuckoo-cry—"the drama is dead." I have had to stop my ears to its sad refrain ever since my earliest recollections of the theatre; when I was taken as a child to see the attractive Madame Vestris, to listen to the laughing Mrs. Nisbett, and to be conscious of the waning powers of the elder Farren. I might, at that time, have also seen the farewell performances, given too early, of that chieftain of his day, William Charles Macready, whose career both on and off the stage was of high repute, in spite of the fact that the theatre was not his sweetheart, for, strange to say, he was never passionately in love with his work. Had I seen him I might have been in a like position to an aged friend of mine, who, quite recently, to my amazement, gave me his personal views on the acting of Edmund Kean. Being afflicted with a memory for dates I could not resist reminding the dear old man that he had barely reached the mature age of nine at the time of the lamented death of that dazzling genius. Some amount of such careless criticism still exists, and always will exist, but I do claim to remember, and with distinctness, the acting of Helen Faucit: the embodiment of Rosalind, Beatrice, Imogen, and others of the most poetic creations in our tongue; of Charles Kean, whose fame as the pioneer of gorgeous Shakespearian revivals has long survived the venom of Douglas Jerrold's undignified attacks; of Samuel Phelps, with many masterly performances in simple but scholarly productions; of the ill-fated Gustavus Brooke, whose natural gifts were akin to those of Salvini; of Charles Fechter, my hero of romance; of Frederick Robson, who had he not been almost a dwarf, might have excelled in tragedy; he may be best described as a blend of Edmund Kean and John Liston, for he was, indeed, "tragical-comical-historical-pastoral"; of Benjamin Webster, whose remarkable, varied powers as an actor were crippled by his cares as a manager of two theatres; of Charles Mathews, most captivating, unique and natural of comedians; of the old Haymarket company in the days of its strength; but although I cherish the recollection of these and other idols of my youth, I must not forget Bacon's warning, "They that revere too much old time, are but a scorn to the new." I will not, therefore, pay so poor a compliment to the living as to praise only the dead, and shall dare—with no bated breath—to mention the names of five women who have reigned in their kingdom as Thalia's champions with a splendour equal to the great ones of the past—Marie Bancroft, Margaret Kendal, Ada Rehan, Ellen Terry, Matilda Wood (Mrs. John Wood)—the very salt of the beautiful art they have adorned and justified: whose mere presence in their bright spring time, their affluent summer, filled the scene: each as distinct from one another as Raphael from Rubens, as Watts from Whistler, yet each stamping the hall-mark of her own strong personality on every part she played, all being gifted with those flecks and gleams of genius which are pearls beyond price and purchase. They are actresses of whom it might indeed be said the deaf could hear them in their eloquent faces: while the blind could see them in their vibrant voices. How deep is the debt which never can be paid them for the cares they have lightened, for the sorrows they have lessened, for the very mine of sweet memories their names recall. They have dragged creatures from out the covers of the books where they were born, making their hearts beat and their pulses throb, often embellishing raw material with exquisite embroidery, and have enshrined their joyousness in many a grateful memory throughout the English-speaking world.

It may be that for the too early withdrawal from triumphant scenes of the great gifts of one famous actress I was in part to blame—if blame there was. I must plead excuse in a vivid remembrance of pitiful words, written by a powerful pen, on the subject of lingering too long upon the stage: words which drew with terrible force the painful picture of a much-loved servant of the public clinging to the faded chaplet won as its idol in earlier days; of clutching at the withered trophy after the time had arrived for its graceful surrender to youth and promise, and before the admiration once so showered upon her should be replaced by indulgence: indulgence to be followed by the bitterness of compassion; compassion, in its turn, by the anguish of what is worse than all—indifference. Indulgence—compassion—indifference. The mere utterance of such words causes one pain. Twilight in art—as in nature—must be sad; surely a sweeter picture is the splendid sinking of an autumnal sun. The clever woman was right who compared glory to wine—as it could provoke both intoxication and thirst. Even of the illustrious Sarah Siddons, Hazlitt once wrote, "Players should be immortal, but they are not. Like other people, they cease to be young, and are no longer themselves. It is the common lot. Any loss of reputation to Mrs. Siddons is a loss to the world. Has she not had enough of glory? The homage she has received is greater than that which is paid to Queens. The enthusiasm she excited had something idolatrous about it: does she think we have forgot her? Or would she remind us of herself by showing us what *she was not?*" These thoughts bring to my mind the strong consciousness, in all its force, that the stage will soon have to mourn the loss, through his intended retirement, of one who for many years has justly been regarded by his comrades as their chief, in words familiar to him "like a great sea-mark, standing every flaw." Throughout his splendid record of work he has been devoted and true to the art he has loved and lived by: upholding always its better aims, its nobler purpose: earning always the respect, the regard, the love of that known yet unknown world—the public. By chance I recently came across some words which once more show how history repeats itself: they were written of Queen Elizabeth. "To her encouragement the theatre was still more directly indebted for the stamp of approbation that was at once discriminating and royal, and therefore productive of the most beneficial influence upon the fortunes of the stage." How closely the language applies to the great Queen whom we have lost; to the great actor we are about to lose; for it will ever be remembered that Henry Irving was the first member of the dramatic profession to receive from his sovereign a long coveted prize—the honour and dignity of State recognition: so placing his calling on a level with the rest of the world, no more to be looked at askance, but recognised as leading to a share of the distinctions enjoyed by his fellow men. No better citizen ever bent the knee in loyalty, so reminding us that in the troublous times of long ago the actors were among the first to rally round their King, when treason was near the throne, throwing aside the sock and buskin to take up arms as servants of His Majesty. In far more eloquent words than I can command—words from the pen of Arthur Pinero—"the history of the theatre will enduringly chronicle his achievements, and tradition will fondly render an account of his personal qualities; and so, from generation to generation, the English actor will be reminded that his position in the public regard is founded in no small degree upon the pre-eminence of Sir Henry Irving's career, and upon the nobility, dignity, and sweetness of his private character." It may also be truly said of Irving, as of one of the most distinguished of his predecessors: "He who has done a single thing that others never forget, and feel ennobled whenever they think of, need not regret his having been, and may throw aside this fleshly coil like any other worn-out part, grateful and contented."

"His was the spell o'er hearts,
That only Acting lends,
The youngest of the sister arts,
Where all their beauty blends.
For Poetry can ill express
Full many a tone of thought sublime;
And Painting, mute and motionless,
Steels but one partial glance from time.
But, by the mighty Actor brought,
Illusion's wedded triumphs come,
Verse ceases to be airy though,
And Sculpture to be dumb!"

With affection and esteem I lay my tribute at Henry Irving's feet. His remarkable campaign will take its place in the history of his country, for he is one of the rulers and leaders of men who has earned the privilege given but to few and has become the property of the world.



[*Photo by the London Stereoscopic Co.*
SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT.

DRAMATIC SCHOOLS.

I now approach the difficult part of my task in venturing to be less retrospective and more anticipative. For a long time now the stage has been strongly recruited from the ranks of culture and refinement. It was once my privilege to render practical encouragement to many promising novices, while among the aspirants of later years I have seen distinct hope of success in a difficult vocation. In the cheery words which accompany the loving cup at a Lord Mayor's feast, "I bid them all a hearty welcome." I do so in the belief that there will be as brilliant a future for the drama as there has been a glorious past, and I would like to take this chance to say how important a step towards such an end has been the founding by Mr. Tree, on his own initiative, of a Dramatic Academy. The cordial acknowledgments of all lovers of the stage are warmly due to him for his help and generosity. Never mind if there should be difficulties for a time to be surmounted; never mind if it is hard to at once find a large band of teachers; never mind the inevitable drawbacks to all new efforts; the start is good—more than encouraging—fraught with infinite value in the future, as the students have amply proved by the rich promise of their first performance. The French dramatic school, it should be remembered, is the outcome of the devoted labour of a century. Mr. Tree has told us how the idea was rebuked as absurd, because acting cannot be taught. I echo his words. "This is a truism often uttered; but if you go through the various professions, which of them can be taught? Can painting be taught? Can music be taught? Can success at the Bar be achieved by teaching? What is the truth in these matters? You cannot teach a man to be an artist—that is a question of talent and natural aptitude. But you can prepare the ground plan—you can bring order out of chaos—you can regulate the conditions out of which your great artist may emerge, and thus remove the stumbling-blocks which cumber the path to Parnassus." As an eloquent postscript I add the words of a French writer, which were quoted on this subject at the Paris Conservatoire by that distinguished actor, Monsieur Le Bargy, "I teach not, I awaken." Perhaps some advice to dramatic aspirants may be accepted from one who for many years shared the burden and the strain of theatrical management—beginning at a strangely early age. Its rewards, when they happily befall those who go upon the stage, are hardly earned and fully merited, for I know of no other career so arduous, so exacting: passing, as much of it always must be passed, both in failure and success, in the full glare of electricity and publicity—a remark which applies to the rank and file as well as to its leaders. Hard as I know it is to avoid that glare—to shrink from its seductive glitter something in that direction may at least be wisely done, remembering always, instead of forgetting constantly, the charm which ever haunts the theatre—mystery. It is a sad mistake to break that charm, to parade its secrets, and the gainer, in my judgment, would be he who sometimes shields himself behind the veil. When the young actor enters the stage-door, he soon learns that the palace or the hovel are alike, but paint and canvas; he should be careful, however, to keep the disillusion to himself, instead of being in a hurry to let his friends know that he has found his new world out. Let novices recollect that they have embarked upon a life which, so to speak, begins backwards, being one of the professions in which youth is an asset—sometimes, I fear, the only stock-in-trade. The outlook then is sad indeed. Let them start with the resolve to leave their calling richer than they found it, by striving to add a stone to the monument of its greatness, and to write, if not a page, at least a phrase in its history; for I contend that, although the gifts and qualities essential to make a really great actor are as rare as those needed to excel in the other arts, moderate adaptability, backed up by patience, will earn a fair and useful position on the stage. Let Shakespeare's precepts to the players abide in their memory, and let this verse by Wordsworth live there also:

"Keep, ever keep, as if by touch
Of self-restraining art,
The modest charm of not too much—
Part seen, imagined part."

Let me remind them that the refined and cultured Barton Booth—to whose memory there is also a monument in Poet's Corner, although his bones rest elsewhere—argued that the longest life was too short for the endless study of the actor. Let them remember that Rubinstein said if he neglected one day's practice he knew it the next day, the critics knew it the day after, and the public knew it the day after that. Let them not be too elated when praised, nor too cast down when found fault with: accepting criticism, when it comes from a capable pen, as a valuable stimulant. Let them beware of the tendency of the day to overdo the necessary use of cosmetics—even the light of genius cannot shine through a mask. One final warning: let them believe that they would lose little but gain much in standing more aloof from some forms of notoriety. Fewer interviews, fewer paragraphs, and fewer photographs, would in the end better serve them than their perpetual and irritating so-called advertisement. Shakespeare knew well the meaning of his words "All the world's a stage," and would not admire their corruption by any of its followers into "The stage is all the world."

A STATE-ENDOWED THEATRE.

My closing thoughts will concern a subject on which I find myself in part at variance with many abler minds—the question of a State-endowed theatre, and I will at once say that I do not believe in such a project for England. So far as I am able—for the clock, which takes the place of stageland's prompter's bell, warns me of the brief time at my disposal—I will give reasons for my non-belief, and will add a few words on my entire belief in the establishment of a National or Repertory Theatre. In the spring of last year a series of interesting papers on what effort could be made to help the British stage appeared in a leading magazine, signed by authorities in the Church, Literature, Art in all its branches—including poor little Cinderella—and by men and women of light and leading. This splendid collection of autographs did not, in many cases, mean support to a given scheme, but discontent with existing conditions, and general agreement that something should be done to promote a better state of things; while it was admitted that in speaking of a subsidised theatre the point was in no way settled whether it should be helped, as in certain foreign cities, out of the reiging Sovereign's privy purse, from the coffers of the Exchequer, or conducted by the municipality.

Mr. Frederic Harrison, whose words on any subject claim respect, is in hearty sympathy with the plea for the foundation of a subsidised high-class permanent theatre, although inclined to the belief that there is more hope of the object being attained by private munificence than by State aid. He thinks "the evil complained of is both deep and wide. The drama is suffering just as literature is suffering, or as public life is suffering, and even society. The evil is an impatience of continuous attention, of serious thought, of any hitch in our ease, our luxuries, or our indulgences. We are all afflicted with a sort of tarantula of restlessness, which makes us skip from one pleasant spot to the next, without quietly enjoying any one in peace. We hurry from one crush to the next, glance at one short story after another, drop in to see the new acrobat or skirt-dancer, smoke a cigarette, and arrange a party for to-morrow. The people who will sit steadily through three hours of an intellectual drama is really very limited. The difficulties are enormous. The immense distances, the five or six millions who almost force long runs of plays on managers, the fact that in London there are every night some two hundred thousand casual visitors who simply want a little excitement."

Mr. Pinero used the voice of authority to say: "A fine play is the rarest product of any country. But where other countries are ahead of us—at least, I hold so—is that when a fine play *is* produced, they do something for it. They preserve it; they take a reasonable amount of pride in it; they do not allow it, when it has once been seen and admired, to be neglected, forgotten; they take good care that from time to time it shall be displayed as evidence of what they can do in that particular department of art and literature. And there you have one of the great uses—I do not by any means say the only use—of a theatre which, whether established by the State, or by a Municipal Corporation, or by private munificence, shall be independent of the purely commercial conditions which too frequently govern the drama in Great Britain."

A valuable opinion was also expressed by one—the remembrance of whose acting lingers with us yet like the sweet fragrance from some dainty perfume—I mean Mary Anderson. To use the far better words of her illustrious fellow-countryman: "When she passed, it seemed like the ceasing of exquisite music." That lady was "delighted to hear of the movement on foot for the establishment of a State-aided Theatre and Dramatic School. Both have been sadly needed since the old stock company days ceased to be. While these existed, good honest training was the rule, and those who were fortunate enough to be brought up in such companies were generally well-rounded, smooth, pleasing in their work, even though they may not have been brilliantly endowed. Perhaps they followed tradition too slavishly, but the tradition was of the best, and gave them solid ground on which to stand. Considering, therefore, the sufferings of the would-be actor, who must paint his pictures directly before a critical public, and who, unlike his brother of the brush, cannot sketch in or rub out what he has done in private—considering also what the public endures in witnessing his blind and often-times frantic efforts at effect, it would, indeed, be a charity to both to found a State-aided theatre and dramatic school. What an incentive these would be to conscientious work! Nothing but good could come of such a venture; good to the public, whose amusement should be of the best, good to the young actor, who, having his work perfected and polished before presenting it to his audience, would come upon the stage with confidence and authority."

I wish to add some words by Mr. John Hare, whose labours as actor and as manager have for many years shed lustre on his profession, words spoken at last year's Royal Academy banquet in an eloquent plea for the endowment of a National Theatre: "A theatre which should uphold the noblest traditions of the British stage, where the best and worthiest plays of British authors should be performed, and to which a sound school of gratuitous dramatic teaching should be attached. Such an institution would at once raise the dignity of the drama to the level it occupies in other great nations of the world, and would help to check those malignant growths which are poisoning and undermining our very existence, and making our stage a byword and reproach." I agree with every word that I have quoted, excepting only those which advocate State aid. If I remember rightly, it is a French proverb which says: "Scratch a Russian, you will find a Tartar." So I verily believe, if you scratch many a Briton there will still be found the Puritan—both being somewhat barbarous in their different ways. I think the old nursery rhyme might run: "Fe-fi-fo-fum—I smell the blood of a Puritan!" But I quarrel with no man's views, and conversion is not my mission. To hurl rational ideas against a brick wall is a waste of time; why tilt your lance against a scarecrow. The only persons I have ever met who object to plays, and refuse to admit that any good can come of them, are persons who have lacked the courage to see and hear one. I have even, in years gone by, known respectable and respected bigots, whose views on all artistic subjects were so dwarfed and imbecile as to allow them to see but little difference between the daub on a sign-board and the art of the most inspired Academician.

PURITANS AND PLAYERS.

Time, the great healer, in his justice, in his mercy, has done much to dam the floods of fierce invective and to stem the torrents of contempt with which the actor has been so often and so long assailed, but prejudice and narrow-mindedness when ingrained die hard—so that, in this country, were ever State-endowed or municipal theatres authoritatively advocated, the question would, I fear, become a party one, and so degenerate into election squabbles over the outlay, down to its petty details of rates and taxes; to which a large proportion of warped but powerful Nonconformists would powerfully object to contribute. The breeches-pockets of the Puritan tax-payer would be a hard lock to pick. Remember, too, the mass of good folk in this land of ours who, if they think at all, think everything bad; who drift aimlessly down the smooth stream of dull monotony, placidly ignorant even of earthquakes and barely conscious of momentous changes in public affairs. We live in Utopia in hoping to see the drama as cherished in our country as, happily for those lands, it is in France and Germany, where love of the stage is an inborn instinct, and regard for the theatre so generally shown by the dignified externals of their playhouses—in itself enough to stir an actor's pride, enforcing him to respect the art he follows when he finds it so respected. What to my mind is needed for the welfare and renown of the drama is concentration. There are numbers of good actors, but they are too scattered, too restless, too prone to move about. The public must be bewildered where to look for, how to find them. Some at least among them should be banded together and find a home under one roof. I grant that life is so fierce, so hurried, that a large section of the surging, struggling mass of humanity which makes up this vast city, craves only for a light and frivolous form of entertainment: let it be so. Let there be as many theatres as may be needed for the purpose, but let their managers remember that public taste is capricious—sudden changes in it occur when least expected. Let us be grateful for the admirable work now being done for the stage by a few, who need no naming, and let more be done, that we may have one playhouse which shall not, in any circumstances, be entirely given over to unbroken and often interminable runs. How far is our country from such a triumph; how might this end be achieved? It is much to say, but I believe there are three possible means. First and best. By the munificence of a possessor of great riches—I trust a British subject—who could and would earn fame by the endowment of an English theatre for national purposes in perpetuity with one stroke of the pen. Could such a man be found? I, for one, think the search might not be hopeless, if wisely, discreetly, pursued. In so important a quest there should be not false step. I have been granted the privilege of reading a privately printed book—a veritable monument of labour—in which such a scheme is carefully propounded, embracing, as it does, every material point—mainly the work of a man of letters distinguished alike as a critic, and as a lover of the stage. With an earnest hope that its aspirations may be completely attained, I commend the volume to all who desire to see the foundation of an English National Theatre.

There is yet a second way. By an already prosperous and established manager, if he would forego certain commercial gains, engaging leading members of his company for annual incomes in place of weekly salaries, and granting them some share in the financial results of his enterprise; while they on their part might lessen their chief's labours and relieve him of many anxieties. For instance, by taking in turn, as is so ably done at the Théâtre Français—which remains, in spite of some decay, the first theatre of the world—the duties of *semainier*, laudably vieing with each other when on the rota of weekly control in capacity and thoroughness. The burden of management might otherwise be lightened, but this is neither the place nor the moment for detail. I doubt if it is sufficiently remembered that the director of an important theatre takes rank with others employers of labour as a practical benefactor, for he supports large numbers of homes and families in ease and comfort.

A third, and final project. By a body of capable and enthusiastic actors forming themselves into a comonwealth; to act as a council, but choosing their leader from among themselves, for if the head of a theatre, however it may be endowed and founded, is to even hope to be successful, I contend he must be as much an autocrat as the captain of a ship. The history of the English stage tells us beyond all doubt and question that its ablest and loftiest work has ever been achieved by actor-managers. The fact is proclaimed by the names of Garrick, Kemble, Macready, Mathews, Phelps, Kean, Webster, Wigan, Hare, Kendal, Irving—if in that list I would include my own name, you will forgive me in the remembrance that it is also owned by one who shared my labours—and just as truly now is the best work being done by those actors who are at the helm to-day.

Nearly three hundred years, concluded Sir Squire, have rolled away since Philip Massinger, the dramatist, wrote: "Mark how the old actors decay, the young sprout up." So will it ever be. The vineyard may keep its most luscious grapes for favoured years, the orchard may not always yield the pick of the basket, but the beautiful art of acting will live on. If the sacred fire burns dimly for a while it will never expire, being "not for an age, but for all time." The drama is undying, and stands as the most entrancing, winning, moving, gladdening, alluring thing ever conceived for the delight and recreation of mankind.

THE Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, now closed, has passed through many vicissitudes, and is again for sale. When last put up for auction, the sum of £12,000 was refused for it.

LIEN was registered on March 16 on the Cork Opera House Company, Limited, for £1,500 and £1,900 debentures respectively, part of £4,000. The amounts are charged on all the property and assets, including the uncalled capital.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE LIEBESFESTUNG,"
Operetta, in Three Acts, by Bogumil Zepler,
Produced at the Theatre des Westens,
March 16, 1905.

De Limousin	Herr Wellhoff
Madame Leda	Fraulein Hagen
Rosalie	Fraulein Gaston
Lantin	Herr Below
Suzanne	Fraulein Doninger
Prince Henri	Herr Haxthausen
Wei-hei-Wei	Herr Ziegler
St. Mars	Herr Mittermacher
Zerbini	Herr Bruckner
Marcuil	Herr Wildegg
Fran Marcuil	Fraulein Schulz
Victorine	Fraulein Karsky
Leboeuf	Herr Broda

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, March 23.—A reception which was enthusiastic to a degree was accorded to the new opera at the Theatre des Westens, the composer, the writers of the book (Herrn Brenert and Urban), and, finally, the popular lessee (Herr Intendant Prasch) being called and recalled, and applauded to the echo. Not that the work can be in any way compared to Wolf-Ferrari's *Neugierigen Frauen*, that has run so long at this house, and which will certainly be given for a long time still. *Die Liebesfestung*, although it contains much that is amusing, and despite the very pleasing music, is far too long. Some energetic cutting would improve it, and ensure its success. The plot is soon told. Colonel Gaston de Limonsin is the commander of the fortress at Antibes. He has had a judicial separation from his wife, because her overwhelming tenderness wearied him, and he is about to marry Suzanne, the daughter of Lautin, the owner of the Antibes Hotel. Naturally, wife No. 1 turns up to spoil everything; she is now Madame Leda, a famous Parisian milliner, who is supplying Suzanne's trosseau, unaware that the latter is Gaston's fiancée. Her delight at finding her husband again is so great that the bridegroom in spe is mollified, and in danger of becoming untrue to his sweetheart, who, however, consoles herself with the handsome Prince Henri of Orleans. To get rid of his wife until the wedding is over, the Colonel closes the fortress for a couple of days, but again Madame Leda manages to slip in and confront her beloved husband, who is forced to yield to her. There are numberless incidental episodes which serve as padding—several with which we could dispense. A laughable figure is the Korean Admiral Wei-hei-wei, who has been sent to Europe to seek a ruler for his country. The operetta was very well interpreted, Fräulein Doninger, as Suzanne, carrying off the chief laurels from a vocal point of view, and Herr Wellhoff playing with his customary irresistible humour. The mounting was tasteful and effective.

Herr Kainz commenced a season at the Berliner on Sunday evening. The booking is tremendous, every seat in the house being filled. The famous actor—whom once we called our own, but who now is one of the first members of the Imperial Burg Company at Vienna—is giving all his well-known rôles, the cook in *Weh' dem der lügt*, Franz Moor in Schiller's *Räuber* among them. Three one-act comedies have made a decided hit at the Trianon Theatre, being given to good houses, and filling the bill to the exclusion of all else. They are *Die Brieftasche*, from the French of Mirabeau; *Das Abenteur des Herrn Malezieux*, by André Picard; and *Ein Peinlicher Zwischenfall*, by MM. De Lorde and Masson-Forestier—all three done into excellent German by Max Schoenau. Vivaciously acted as they are, there is every prospect of a long run for the amusing pieces.

I hear from Dresden that Herr Richard Henberger's new opera, *Barfüssle*, was received with acclamation on its recent production at the Court Opera House. The music is reported to be unusually fine in the instrumentation, while the more lyrical passages are melodious, and the volk-scenes warm and natural. The book is derived by Victor Leon from the well-known story by Auerbach. Barfüssle is the poor, but charming, farm-maid, with whom Johannes, the farmer's son, falls in love. Johannes is destined for Rosel—a wealthy *parti*—but, as luck will have it, Rosel is secretly pledged to Dami, the worthy brother of Barfüssle. After the customary difficulties have been overcome, the two pairs of lovers are made happy. The music is in keeping with the rustic theme, and the whole is said to be of delightful effect. The King was present on the opening night.

Our Royal Schauspielhaus re-opens this evening, after having been closed for the better part of a year. The opening play is Kleist's historical drama, *Prince Freidrich von Homburg*, which has been selected by the Emperor. His Majesty was present at the dress rehearsal, and intends to be at the opening. A very young aspirant to dramatic fame made his bow to an indulgent audience at the Lustspielhaus last week in a matinée. The author is Herr Latzko, his play—which he calls a "satire in three acts"—is entitled *Hans im Glück*. The satire is of a very mild order, and the piece would not be worth mentioning but for a certain fresh and wholesome humour that pervades several of the scenes, and for one or two skilfully interwoven episodes. As for the plot, it is soon told. Hans is a young musician—a pianist—with lofty ideals and no means. He is determined never to sully his art, nor to descend from the lofty pedestal he has chosen for himself; but when he finds his clothes are wearing out, and when hunger makes itself undeniably felt, Hans goes to his friend Fritz, who—being less fastidious as to ways and means—is a famous professor of music. The younger man is received with astonishing friendliness, especially by Fritz's frivolous little wife. Before he knows where he is, he has become the centre of an admiring crowd, and the lover in spe of several of the women. Hans has lost his ideals, but we are convinced that he will not hunger any more. All the whys and wherefores of the young hero's scruples remain somewhat obscure, and he is at the end—like he is at the beginning—a good deal of a pedant and a prig, so that he does not arouse any genuine sympathy. We will hope—which, indeed, is very likely to be the case—that Herr Latzko will write a more convincing play next time. The interpretation was capital, and the audience applauded author and artistes most cordially.

Herr Albert Heine, of the Imperial Burg Theatre, Vienna, is continuing his representations at the Deutsches, and drawing large houses. The artist found excellent opportunity for his characteristic talents—which are unquestionably great—in the part of Mephisto. It was as admirable a rendering as I have ever witnessed, and fully deserved the hearty applause that was tendered.

"Der Mann im Schatten," a four-act comedy which some years ago at the Deutsches enjoyed a successful run, is about to be revived at the Lustspielhaus. It is a bright, amusing piece, and will certainly be good for a number of performances.

Fraulein Maria Pospischil—a once famous tragedienne—begins a short series of representations at the Schiller this evening. The first three performances will be Grillparzer's tragedy *Medea*, in which Fräulein Pospischill plays the title-rôle—a part of enormous opportunities.

"Hotel Pompadour" is still running nightly at the Residenz. The laughable farce—with our most famous actor-manager, Herr Alexander, in the chief rôle—will soon have reached its 50th consecutive performance, and its popularity is still very great. H.R.H. Prince Joachim Albrecht of Prussia was present last Wednesday, and, like everyone else, was convulsed with laughter.

Herr Paul Heyse, one of Germany's best writers, has just celebrated his 75th birthday with unusual honours.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

PROPOSED NEW BY LAWS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I should be glad if you would kindly spare me a few lines re the above. The new by-laws are now published, and only await the approval of the Home Secretary, who will shortly hold an inquiry as to whether any alterations are advisable. It is the duty of every theatrical and variety manager to protest in the strongest possible manner against the clause applying to the necessity of again taking out licences for children between the ages of eleven and fourteen, and this in face of the last Act of Parliament, which distinctly states that the time limits therein contained do not apply to recognised places of entertainment. Surely if a proprietor or lessee is granted a license to run a theatre or music hall, he is a man of responsibility enough to be permitted to engage and employ any juvenile artistes without putting him under police supervision.

Perhaps some of your readers can inform me whether a charge has ever been preferred against any management for acting in a cruel manner towards any young artistes employed by them. I myself can find no trace of any. If no such charge has ever been brought against the proprietor or manager of any theatre or music hall, what possible good can the new by-laws do? Even if one or two remote cases can be quoted, the very fact of process having been issued proves that the law as it stood before was quite strong enough to bring any offenders to book. Apart from the fact of any proprietor or his agents being compelled to waste their time in police courts, I should much like to know what possible benefit the youngsters can derive from visiting them, and thus getting their naturally observant minds polluted by rubbing shoulders with and being forced to hear the ribald remarks passed by the rakings of the slums and the "drunks and disorderlies" of both sexes. I consider it the duty of every manager to give his ideas to the Home Secretary in the shape of a personal letter, when no doubt a new clause will be inserted in the by-laws to the effect that they do not apply to licensed places of entertainment.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY McCALLA.

P.S.—The following is a rough draft of the letter or petition I advise:—

To the Secretary of State, Home Office, London.
Re the new By-Laws concerning the Employment of Children.

I (or We), the undersigned, respectfully pray the Secretary of State to vary the above by-laws now under consideration by adding a clause to the effect that they shall not apply to theatres holding dramatic or singing and stage-dancing licences, because

1. Such places are always open for inspection by the various authorities.
2. The Acts of Parliament of 1903 and 1904 are perfectly adequate without any further restrictions.
3. The attendance of children at the various police courts to obtain their licences is most undesirable, as it cannot fail to leave sinister impressions upon their naturally observant minds.
4. The Act of 1904 distinctly mentions that its time limits, &c., do not apply to recognised theatres.

(Signatures and addresses.)

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Although I have the honour to be a member of the Actors' Association, I have long ceased to regard it as being of any practical value to the actors' cause.

First: Because it presents the extraordinary anomaly of a Trade Union practically run by the masters, unable to support itself, and in all cases of difficulty going for help to the theatrical managers. I am convinced that no association or union can be self-respecting unless self-supporting, and any Trade Union soliciting financial aid from the masters (with its consequent evils) can be neither.

Secondly: Because a large proportion of the members, possibly the majority, are persons who, though no doubt desirable citizens, are extremely unlikely to become at any time competent artists, and whose presence can only be accounted for by their willingness to pay their subscriptions.

Thus the Actors' Association as it exists is rendered abortive by two great evils—its head and its tail.

For reorganising and placing the association on a business basis, I have repeatedly advocated the following:—

1. No charge should be made for membership.
2. A strong examining committee should be formed of, say, forty ladies and gentlemen, twenty of each sex, half of which should be selected from ladies and gentlemen of the so-called old school, such artists as Henry Neville, J. Fernandez, Herman Vezin, Mrs. Billington, Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe), Genevieve Ward, &c., and the other half of the committee composed of the best available exponents (ladies and gentlemen in equal proportions) of the more modern school of acting.
3. All candidates for membership (other than those of acknowledged position and ability) should pass a rigid examination by the above mentioned examining committee, who shall decide by a majority the fitness of the candidate for election, and in the event of election grant a diploma of competency signed by themselves. This would keep out undesirables of all classes, and the possession of such a diploma would be of great commercial value to its holder.
4. Funds.—Sufficient funds for the upkeep of the Association could be automatically raised by a one per cent. tax on all artists' salaries above £3 per week during engagements, which I believe would be willingly subscribed for the advantages that such an institution could and would afford its members.—Yours faithfully,

B. Soane Roby.

14, Whitcomb-street, Pall Mall East,
March 18, 1905.

[While opening our columns to the discussion of subjects interesting to the profession, we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.—Ed., *The Era*.]

THE PERCY ELLIS FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—On the eve of my departure for Las Palmas, may I trespass on your kindness by asking you to allow me to thank, through your columns, all those who have so generously responded to the appeal which you so kindly opened in your paper on my behalf? I shall for ever be grateful to you and to all. I am now able to take a trip which will perhaps restore my health.

I should especially like to add a word of thanks to Mr. A. F. Henderson and Mr. F. A. Stanley, who have worked so hard and cheerfully for the fund, and who have been the means of pulling me through some very bad times by their many kindly acts.—Yours faithfully,

PERCY ELLIS.

23, St. Oswald's-road, Earl's Court, S.W.,
March 12, 1905.

Since our last issue Mr. A. F. Henderson has received the following amounts for the Percy Ellis Fund:—Mrs. Ernest Shand, 10s.; Miss Lilias Waldegrave, £2 2s.; Mr. Shad Frost, £2 2s.; per H. B. E., second instalment (Geo. Dance's *Cingalee* company and friends at the Pavilion, Mile End), £1 8s. This makes a total of £77 3s.

"The Era" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Deane.—March 18, at Spennymoor, the wife of Mr. Francis Deane (Marie Horton), of a daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Akerman—Merry.—March 17, 1905, at St. Patrick's Church, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, Ireland, by the Rev. H. D. O'Connor, Henry Jasper Akerman, of Hereford, to Flo Merry, of Bristol.

Dale—Gresham.—March 16, at Leeds, Will Dale, of Dale and D'Argan, to Rose Gresham, Serio, by Special Licence. Touring with Thompson's Pantomime, "Aladdin."

Lipson—Barnard.—March 15, at the Great Central Synagogue, Harold Lipson, of Liverpool, to Minnie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Barnard, Cleveland, Chatham.

DEATHS.

Carswell.—March 8, at her residence, at Leicester, Mrs. Carswell, aged 68 years, widow of the late James Carswell, of Sheffield, and the dearly-beloved mother of Mrs. Greenwood, of Abbeyfield, Sheffield, and of Mrs. J. A. Winstanley, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley, proprietor of the Royal Opera House, and sole lessee of the Theatre Royal, Leicester.

Doyle.—On March 19, 1905, at his residence, 36, Langsdale-street, Liverpool, Edward Doyle, beloved father of Mrs. Arthur Slater. "In the midst of life we are in death."

Mendel.—March 15, after an illness of four months, the father of Mendel, the blind pianist.

Mills.—18th inst., Mary Louisa Mills (Louie Coote), youngest daughter of the late James Mills, of Manchester. Age 30. Deeply mourned.

Morgan.—On March 10, 1905, at 35, Brunswick-street, Cheetham, Manchester, Norah Louise Morgan, the beloved wife of Clifford Morgan; deeply mourned.

In Memoriam.

Cleveland.—In loving memory of Louie Cleveland. Died March 26, 1899. Interred at Paisley.

"Earth hath one gentle soul the less,
And Heaven one angel more."

Cleveland.—In loving memory of Louie Cleveland, who died March 26, 1899. Never forgotten by her mother and sister, Nannie Meade.

Connorton.—In loving memory of darling baby, Marjorie; died March 27, 1904. Sadly missed.

Greatorex, of Wrexham.—At Rest, March 11, 1905, Greatorex, of Wrexham, At Rest, March 11, 1905, aged 55 years. His sorrowing wife and family acknowledge the numerous expressions of sympathy and esteem which their bereavement has called forth from all parts of "The Showman World."

Hancock.—In memory of our dear father, Robert Hancock, who died at Droylesden, March 14, 1904, and was interred at Heywood Cemetery, March 18, 1904.

Harvey.—In sad and loving memory of my dear husband, Frank Harvey, who departed this life March 29, 1903. A devoted husband and father.

Haswell.—Little Teddy, the beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Haswell (Kitty Bishop), March 17, 1905, Interred March 19, at Castleford Cemetery. Age 5 years. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing parents. "Thy will be done."

Luck.—In loving memory of Hylda Rosalind, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Luck, who passed away March 22, 1903.

"STANDING ROOM ONLY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The circular addressed to theatre managers by Sir Arthur Ellis, to which you briefly referred in your last issue, is, I think, deserving of further comment, even at the risk of recapitulation.

Apologists for the interminable meddling of the London County Council in the control of theatres have urged the impracticability of finality, by reason of the necessity to adopt, for safety's sake, new developments of science and invention as they arise; a contention not unsound in itself, but open to abuse if strained to give "*trial trips*," at the expense of others to costly fads that do not stand the test of time.

The Lord Chamberlain has resorted to a new pretext for amending long-considered regulations, whose ink is scarcely dry. His Lordship, it would appear, is moved by "sympathy" and a desire to "elasticise." He affects to be racked by the fear that Nos. 7 and 8 of his very latest Regulations may press too hardly upon the managers. These Regulations are, indeed, more exacting than the older ones, but managers have conformed to them without asking relief. The gangways have been kept free from obstruction, and standing in gangways forbidden. No actual limit is placed by the Regulations on the number permitted to stand in spaces other than gangways, and any tendency to overcrowd such spaces has been so successfully repressed that even the lynx-eyed inspectors of the London County Council have found no cause to complain.

To "elasticise" the existing Regulations, the Lord Chamberlain proposes to take away the discretionary power held by the managers, and to impose a limit to the standing room admissions, which he will determine after more consideration and consultation with the London County Council, to whom he refers in a furtive sort of way, with a touch of unconscious humour, as his "expert advisers." The limits are to be marked on the plans which the licence covers, and notices explaining the numerical limitation are to be posted in each part of the theatre, where they can be easily read by the audience.

To describe this as a measure of elasticity for the exclusive benefit of managers is to toy with words. The verb, to "elasticise," as here employed, if ever it find its way into the vocabulary, might be conjugated indifferently with the verb to strangle and the verb to "bluff." The exhibition of the exact numbers which the various parts of the theatre are licensed to hold is presumably designed to give inquisitorial stimulus to members of the audience, and to invite complaint from the malcontent and the captious. In times of depression the state of the business could be calculated to a fraction and advertised broadcast, which would conduce still more to depress.

The inspectors of the London County Council are, under the existing system, rightly given every facility to perambulate all parts of the theatre, and to report overcrowding.

What further supervision is required? The proposal to give each member of the audience detective duties is offensive, and can serve no good purpose whatever.

It would undoubtedly lead to much bickering, and be a source of interruption during performances.

The Lord Chamberlain's Department suffered an irreparable loss on the retirement from the Comptroller's office of Sir Arthur Ellis's predecessor, Sir Spencer Ponsonby Fane, whose ripe experience and profound judgment were of inestimable value in the control of theatres.

That Lord Clarendon, of all others, should have been denied the services of one so eminently qualified to act as "expert adviser" is little less than a calamity to those who have the well-being of theatres at heart.

Yours faithfully,
A TIRED MANAGER.

London, March 14, 1905.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had elected Mr. Walter B. Yates to be their chairman, and Mr. H. J. Greenwood to be vice-chairman for the ensuing year. They had also appointed their chairman to represent them on the General Purposes Committee.

DALY'S THEATRE.

The Committee reported they had considered a plan, submitted by Messrs. E. Runtz and Ford, showing certain alterations proposed to be made to the heating chamber at Daly's Theatre, Cranbourne-street, in order to give effect to No. 35 of the suggestions made by the Council as the result of a detailed inspection of the theatre. The proposals appeared to be satisfactory, and they recommended

That Messrs. Runtz and Ford be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by them with regard to the proposed method of separating the heating chamber at Daly's Theatre from other portions of the theatre, provided the following conditions be complied with:

1. That the ventilating shaft from the gas meter room be turned so as to discharge out of the area.
2. That the small ventilating opening to the gas meter room be bricked up.
3. That proper means of ventilation be provided to the heating chamber.

Agreed to.

THE ROYAL.

The Committee had considered a plan submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing certain alterations proposed to be made at the Royal Music Hall, Holborn. The proposed alterations relate to the provision of means of escape from the grid and flies, and of an exhaust cowl to the stage roof. The arrangements shown on the plan appeared to be satisfactory, and the Committee recommended

That Messrs. Matcham and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by them with regard to the proposed alterations.

The Committee had also considered a plan, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing the provision of additional means of access to the exit on the o.p. side of the gallery at the Royal Music Hall. They recommended

That Messrs. Matcham and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection, so far as its regulations under Section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., cap. 32, are concerned, to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by them with regard to the proposed alteration in the gallery at the Royal Music Hall, provided the following conditions be complied with:—

1. That the two exit doors shown on the plan be made fire-resisting to the satisfaction of the Council.
2. That the approach to the exit from the lower portion of the gallery be replanned, so that the two converging streams of persons leaving the gallery may meet at a better angle.

The recommendations were approved.

THE COLISEUM.

The Building Act Committee recommended

That the Council, in the exercise of its powers under Sections 22 and 73 of the London Building Act, 1894, but in no way otherwise than under such sections, do consent to the erection of an iron and glass shelter to the Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, to abut upon May's Buildings, as shown on the plans, dated March 3, 1905, submitted in connection with the application of Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., on behalf of the London Coliseum, Ltd., such consent being subject to the following conditions:—That the shelter be commenced within six months, and completed within eighteen months from March 21, 1905; that the shelter be constructed, supported, and fixed, and the whole of the work executed, to the satisfaction of the district surveyor; that no advertisement, sign, lettering, or device be placed over or upon or affixed to the shelter; and that the shelter be otherwise erected and retained without any addition thereto, and in exact accordance with the application for the consent, and the plans and particulars submitted in connection with such application. Approved.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The Music Committee of the Corporation of the City of London entertained the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs (Alderman and Sheriff Strong and Mr. Sheriff Woodman) at a dinner at the Criterion Restaurant on Monday last. Mr. Carl Hentschel, chairman of the committee, who presided, announced that owing to the generosity of Mr. Carnegie, they had, through the Musicians' Company, received £1,000 for the formation and endowment of two scholarships in connection with the Guildhall School of Music. The Guildhall School of Music, said Mr. Hentschel, was something to be proud of. The outside public knew little of the good work done by the institution. Since 1880, the school had had 2,800 pupils, and had received £590,000 in fees. 37,000 students had passed through the school; and 500 prizes had been given in 25 years. Though Mr. Carnegie had offered £1,000 for two scholarships, he (the speaker) was not satisfied. The school wanted more prizes. The Royal Academy of Music had 86 prizes for 400 students; the College of Music had 71 prizes for 360 students. All these were derived from capitalised investments, whereas the Guildhall School, with 2,800 pupils, had only 75 prizes, and only four of these were from capitalised investments—the others might be withdrawn in one year. The Guildhall School was willing to accept money on any terms, and they hoped the Musicians' Company would assist them. The Corporation of the City of London were, he feared, rather Puritan in spirit. Music elevated in more ways than one, and helped us to forget the sordid side of life. Make the masses more cheerful, said Mr. Hentschel, and you will get better work out of them. He then made formal presentation to Mr. G. H. Heilbuth, the late chairman, of a lifesize portrait, painted by Mr. Bacon, A.R.A., which had been subscribed for by the members of the committee as a token of regard, and was displayed at one end of the room.

Mr. Heilbuth, in acknowledging the gift, mentioned that the Corporation had contributed £64,000 towards the expenses of the school since its establishment; also a site valued at £50,000 and a building which cost a similar sum.

Dr. Cummings, the principal of the school, replying to the toast of his health, said 75 per cent. of the students were ladies. The committee of management desired another 1,000 pupils, as they had plenty of accommodation, and could well afford to teach 4,000 students.

The guests included the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs, Sir F. Burnand, Sir Douglas Straight, Sir Joseph Dimsdale, M.P., and Mr. J. H. Bacon, A.R.A.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—It has been stated in *The Era* that Miss Daisy Noble is playing the part of Nan in Mr. George Dance's Midland company of *A Country Girl*. Such is not the case. The part is being played by, yours faithfully, Maisie Gay.
Theatre, West Bromwich.

The case of Fraser v. Edwardes, which commenced on Wednesday in the King's Bench Division, was still proceeding when we went to press, no witnesses having been heard for the defence.

ON THE ROAD, MARCH 27.

Amorelle.—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
Are You a Mason?—Ramsgate.
Armadale Repertoire.—West London.
As Midnight Chimes.—Royalty, Barrow.
At War with the World.—Royal, Pontypool.
Bandmann-Palmer.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Beauty and the Barge.—O. H., Leicester.
Belle of New York.—Eccles.
Belles of Haslemere.—Paisley.
Benson, Mr. F. R. (A).—Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Benson, Mr. F. R. (B)—Kendal.
Best Must Win.—Empire, Dundee.
Blanchard Diamonds.—T. R., Bury.
Bound to Win.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Bulmer, Mr.—G. T., Falkirk.
Charley's Aunt.—Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.).—Blackburn.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) (S.).—Deal.
Christian.—T. R., Porth.
Cingalee.—Oldham.
Compton Comedy Co.—Gaiety, Ayr.
Conscript, The—Grand T., Stalybridge.
Convict's Daughter.—T. R., Consett.
Country Girl (Dance) (M.).—Ipswich.
Country Girl (Dance) (S.).—Grand, Doncaster.
Country Girl (Dance) (N.).—Royal Court, L'pool.
Country Girl (Macdona) (S.).—Chelmsford.
Country Mouse (N.).—Jersey.
Cousin Kate.—T. R., Belfast.
Dandy Doctor.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—New T., Cambridge.
Darling of the Gods.—S. T., Clapham.
Defending His Honour.—Royal, West Bromwich.
D'Oyly Carte.—O. H., Northampton.
Drama of Life.—Met., Glasgow.
Duchess of Dantzic (Dance).—Huddersfield.
Duchess of Dantzic (Edwardes).—Camden, N.W.
Duke of Killicrankie (Lovel).—T. R., Hull.
Duke of Killicrankie (Frohman).—T. R., Bath.
Earl and the Girl.—T. R., Cardiff.
Earl and the Girl.—G. T., Middlesbro'.
Eternal City.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Facing the Music.—Hereford.
Florodora (Callan).—T. R., Rotherham.
Florodora (Davis)—P. T., Accrington.
Fiordora (Howard).—Irving, Seacombe.
Frivolity.—Gaiety, Leith.
Garden of Lies.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Gay Parisienne.—Kennington.
Geisha and Greek Slave.—A. T., Stoke Newington.
Gipsy Jack.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Girl from Bond Street.—O. H., Blackpool.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Manchester.
Girl from Kay's (Dance) (S.).—O. H., Burton.
Golden Ladder.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—Birmingham.
Greatest Scoundrel Living.—Century, Motherwell.
Grip of Iron.—Prince's T., Hoyland.
Harvey, Martin.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Heart of a Hero.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Her Fatal Past.—T. R., Edmonton.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Alexandra, Hull.
His Excellency the Governor.—Canterbury.
Hot Night.—Q. T., Longton.
I Defy the World.—Royal, Leicester.
Indian Mutiny.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
It's Never too Late to Mend.—Q. T., Manchester.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.—Marlborough, N.
King's Pardon.—Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.
Ladder of Life.—Theatre Royal, Dumfries.
Lady of Ostend.—G. T., Birmingham.
La Poupee.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
La Poupee (Howard).—Kingston.
Laughter Land.—County Theatre, Reading.
Life's Revenge.—Royal, Leeds.
Lights o' London.—Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe.
Little Mary.—T. R., Greenock.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
Lucky Durham.—Royal, South Shields.
Man to Man.—Rotunda, Liverpool.
Manxman.—Grand T., Birmingham.
Merely Mary Ann.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Merely Mary Ann (Bright).—Perth.
Message from Mars.—Grand T., Derby.
Midnight Mail.—Princess's, Glasgow.
Mockery of Marriage.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Royalty, Chester.
Moody Manners (A).—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
Moody Manners (B).—Bishop Auckland.
Moody Manners (C).—Ilfracombe.
My Sweetheart.—Opera House, Blackpool.
Napoleon the Great.—Court T., Wigan.
New Mephisto.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Norman V. Norman.—Borough, Stratford.
Orchid (Edwardes).—Gaiety, Dublin.
Orchid (Dance).—Bolton.
Otto the Outcast.—New Gaiety, Clydebank.
Peggy Machree.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Prince of Pilsen.—Royal, Nottingham.
Prince of Rogues.—Peterboro'.
Proof.—Bootle.
Red Riding Hood (Eland).—T. R., Lincoln.
Revenge.—Junction, Manchester.
Royal Divorce.—Ealing.
Royal Revenge (Clyndes).—Govan.
Sapho (Annie Bell).—Gaiety, Hastings.
Saturday to Monday.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Scarlet Woman.—Grand T., Plymouth.
School Girl (Macdona).—Sheffield.
Sergeant Brue.—G. T., Swansea.
Sherlock Holmes.—Bradford.
Sign of the Cross.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Silver King.—Barnsley.
Sinbad the Sailor (Levaine).—T. R., Rugby.
Sin of Her Childhood.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Sins of a City.—Pavilion, Maidenhead.
Sledge-Hammer.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Soldier and a Man.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—G. T., Southampton.
Standing Repertoire Co.—Folkestone.
Still Alarm.—T. R., West Stanley.
Sunday.—Court T., Warrington.
Swiss Express.—T. R., Stockport.
Three Little Maids (Macdona) (N.)—Deptford.
Three Little Maids (Macdona) (S.)—Coventry.
Traitor.—Royal, Dewsbury.
Traitor Prince.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Trip to Chinatown.—T. R., Darwen.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—T. R., Aldershot.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Wednesbury.
Under Two Flags.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Veronique.—Bradford.
Victim of Villainy.—Opera House, Dudley.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand T., Walsall.
Warner, Grace.—Theatre Royal, Windsor.
Way of the World.—Prince's T., Preston.
When a Woman Hates.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Woman of Impulse.—Theatre Royal, Torquay.
Woman's Devotion.—Royal T., Stockton.
10.30 Down Express.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.

"OVER THE HILLS TO THE UNION."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—When one hears from so many managers the cry that "I'm sending nothing out this autumn" and on the top of it receives a circular proposing an Actors' Union, fringed with several allegorical propositions, one is inclined to wish that the same "Wise men from the West" would busy themselves rather with the higher and more immediate problem of how to draw the public back to the theatre, and leave well, or in other words, the Actors' Association to do the rest.

An Actor.

Mr. George Alexander's concert recital tour has been marked by the utmost success. He has already visited Bristol, Bournemouth, &c., and his future engagements include Plymouth, Croydon, Cheltenham, Portsmouth, Ryde, and the Richmond Theatre. Mr. Alexander is assisted by Miss Constance Drever (soprano), Miss Kate Rooney (contralto), Mr. Harold Montague (musical monologist), and Mr. Frank Boor (tenor).

PLAYGOERS' CLUB DINNER.

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL, president of the Playgoers' Club, occupied the chair at the twenty-first annual dinner of the Club, held at the Hotel Cecil, on Sunday. He was supported by Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. A. Sutro, Professor Ayrton, Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, Mr. Louis E. Harfeld (trustee), Mr. Kenneth Havers (vice-president), Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Mr. B. W. Findon, Mr. F. S. Hess (hon. treasurer), Mr. Laurence Irving, and Mr. Hannaford Bennett (hon. secretary).

The toast of "The King" was followed by that of "The Playgoers' Club," after which MR. ZANGWILL gave "The Drama." He opened with a graceful compliment to Mr. Sutro, but went on to deplore, from the standpoint of the contemporary British daramatist, the prospective as well as the actual prevalence of Shakespeare. Not merely were Shakespearian plays now running, but we were threatened with no fewer than three *Hamlets*, two with scenery and one with only a Tree. What was the reason for so much Shakespeare? Was it that managers did not want to pay royalties to the poor author? Shakespeare "spelt ruin" to the British dramatist, as he once had done to the British manager. Several new theatres were now being built—all by the same architect, to prevent any architectural merit—and he confessed he did not quite understand for what purpose. Why should managers be building new theatres, when they complained that there were no dramatists? The manager seemed to imagine that because he made a demand for drama the drama would be supplied; whereas the artist always had to force his work upon the audience, and it was the supply, in the case of plays, which created the demand. His own opinion was that the British drama of the present day was, for the most part, lowering the British people, and not elevating them. This being so, Shakespearian revivals could be condoned. Why, however, was not our age as wonderful as the Elizabethan age? At an epoch of the most extraordinary facts—and he instanced the discoveries of radium and wireless telegraphy, the overthrow of the Russian Colossus by the Japanese *nain inconnu*—the main outcome, so far as the stage was concerned, seemed to be that the Lyceum became a music hall. In one direction the music hall might render help to the dramatic author with the earnest aims—in the direction, viz., of the one-act play. In a barren age such as the present we might really turn to the one-act play. There were one-act plays by Maeterlinck which belonged to the regions of the highest art. Unfortunately, people did not go to the theatres to see the one-act play, and leading actors and actresses would not play in it. If the music halls could be induced to try the one-act play systematically, it might tend to their elevation, and also to the elevation of their audiences. By a procedure of that sort it might be possible for Irving to be seen again at the Lyceum. Dealing with the merits of the drama in the abstract, it was no sure proof of imbecility that a play ran a hundred nights, any more than it was a sure proof of merit that a play only ran one night. The author of *Lady Windermere's Fan* had stated that he went to the first nights of his own plays in order to see "whether the audience was a success." This was quite a legitimate point of view. He himself had sometimes felt it was the audience who ought to be called behind the scenes and be "boo'd." Coupling Mr. Lewis Waller with the toast, Mr. Zangwill concluded with the compliment to that actor that he had shown it was not necessary to confine Shakespeare to the Strand or the Haymarket. Mr. Waller had taught them to "think imperially."

MR. LEWIS WALLER, in reply, said he could not but be bound by the motto of his family—"*Factis, non verbis.*" He found his time so much occupied with doing his own work that he had very little time left to talk about it. Of views upon theatrical matters he had not many. Those he had he generally kept to himself. He knew but little as to the future of the drama; what he did know was confined to the stage of his own theatre, and even there he did not find it easy to prophesy many months in advance. In matters of amusement he was for free trade. He would place as few restrictions upon it as possible, and, above all, he would have no fuss. If the music halls liked to play five-act tragedies as well as one-act plays, as suggested, such a course would have his own entire approval.

MR. B. W. FINDON proposed "The Visitors," and coupled with the toast the names of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Mr. A. Sutro, and Mr. Jerome. Mr. Findon thanked the chairman for his felicitous remarks in regard to the one-act play. To the cause of the one-act play Sir Alexander Mackenzie had brought the powerful support of his honoured name. He had recently produced at the Palace Theatre a one-act piece of which the music was so superior that very deep thanks were due to him. All, artists and public alike, owed to Sir Alexander their gratitude for producing at a variety theatre a work which was a credit to the English nation.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, in acknowledgment of the toast, said that all he had to urge against the members of the club was that they devoted "too much attention to the mere drama." There was such a thing as opera, and even of operetta. He himself was one of those odd cranks who had a firm belief in his brother and sister composers among the English.

MR. A. SUTRO, referring to the success of his *Walls of Jericho*, said he had had the good luck to be associated with two great artists—Mr. and Mrs. Bourchier. He was a very new author, a very "green" one, indeed; but he had tasted all the joy that could be derived from riding on an omnibus which bore the label of the name of his own piece. His success, if he might call it so, was so recent, however, that all his sympathies went out to his brethren whose plays had not yet been produced. What we needed in this country was not so much a repertory theatre, where the plays of past successful writers could be produced, as a theatre with a man at the head of it who would recognise talent, and discounting blemishes, would give a chance to the man who could show he had the dramatic gift. Paris in this respect was above London. For eleven years he had knocked at doors which had persistently, perhaps properly, refused to open, but he knew well how great an advantage it would have been to him if he could have had the smallest opportunity of testing his work, in no matter what restricted hall or theatre.

MR. JEROME also acknowledged the toast. A selection of music was played during dinner by a string band of the Royal Horse Guards Blue; and in an interval between the speeches Mr. Lewis Waller aroused tremendous enthusiasm by a couple of recitations.

THE multitudinous army of seaside entertainers will peruse with interest the announcement made by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter elsewhere in this issue to the effect that the firm's "Summer Books" are now ready. The first of the three volumes contains humorous songs, the second coon and soubrette ditties, and the third ballads and chorus and descriptive songs.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. PLAYER.—*It is against our rule to give the age of members of the profession.*

H. LAURENCE HARRIS.—*Write to the Secretary, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi.*

SHERLOCK.—*We can find no record of the titles mentioned having been used.*

T. C.—(1). *We are not acquainted with the recitation. You might write to S. French & Co., theatrical publishers, Southampton-street, Strand.* (2). *The Greater Love, a play in four acts by Vincent Brown, was produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on June 10, 1901.* (3). *Forbidden Fruit, a drama in four acts, adapted by F. M. Abbotts from Augier's* Paul Forestier, *was first performed at Liverpool, June 7, 1869, and produced at the Lyceum Theatre, London, on Nov. 6, 1869. A three-act comedy of the same name, adapted by Dion Boucicault from "Le Premier Coup de Canif," was first performed at Wallock's Theatre, New York; produced at Liverpool, Oct. 22, 1877, and at the Adelphi, London, on July 3, 1880. (4 and 5). We can find no record of either of these titles having been used, though it is quite likely that No. 4 has been chosen as the name of a play at some time or other. It is not at all probable that No. 5 has been used.*

A. A.—*The late W. G. Wills was the author of a one-act play* Don Quixote, *which was produced at the Lyceum Theatre, on May 4, 1895, with Henry Irving as the Don.*

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THE ever-popular *Florodora* was played at the Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, on the first three nights of the week by Mr. Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard. Mr. Gus Danby is a droll and entertaining comedian as Anthony Tweedlepunch; Mr. Edward Chester as the self-satisfied Yankee, Cyrus Gilfain, is smart; Mr. Edward Crossland is a capital Frank Abercoed, and his rich and mellow voice is heard to advantage; Mr. Chas. Stevenson plays with ability the part of Capt. Arthur Donegal; Mr. Jos. R. Tate is a capable Leandro; Miss Daisy Lake is a clever Dolores, and her singing is bright and tuneful; Miss Daisy Marshall is effective as Valleda; Miss Lucy Gullick as Angela Gilfain is pleasing and successful; Miss Fanny M. Newman sings well and acts with spirit as Lady Holyrood; Miss Maud Brocks as Inex merits praise; and numerous minor parts, male and female, find capable exponents.

MR. J. MORGAN FORBES' company entered upon its second week's engagement at the Theatre Royal, Runcorn, on Monday, and met with full appreciation in *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. Wilfred Protheroe made a good Tom Cooper; Mr. Holland Day gave satisfaction as George Benson; Mr. Lilywhite was capital as Nathan; Mr. Chas. M. Daly as Jim Farren introduced several songs; Miss Stoddart as Annie and Nellie was very good indeed; and Miss Eva Lyndhurst gave a satisfactory portrayal of Biddy.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.

Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1905.

"The Era" Annual for 1905 is an invaluable work of reference, besides being an interesting publication containing many contributions from actors and actresses.—Globe, Jan. 23, 1905.

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"Anywhere there will do" (Murray and Everard)	R. G. Knowles
"A Warning to Single Men" (Bateman and Pether)	Frank Seeley
"Beautiful, Beautiful Bed" (Murphy and Lipton)	Arthur Reece
"Baby Mine" (Browne and Friedman)	Morny Cash
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"'Come in!' said Widdy Malone" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	George Leyton
"Conversations" (F. and W. Redmond)	Micbael Nolan
"Delusions" (Phil Ray)	Ambrose Thorne
"Doan' Cry, Little Coloured Coon" (S. F. Harrison and Neat)	Phil Ray
"Don't Stand There——!" (Lawrance and Gifford)	Miss H. Vernon
"Farewell, my little Yo San" (Mills and B. Scott)	Walter Stanley
"Frozen Meat" (T. W. Connor)	Tom Costello
"Girls wouldn't be wanted at all" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Alf Gibson
"Have you seen my girl?" (Mills and Scott)	W. J. Churchill
"He Kissed I Once" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Walter Munroe
"Here comes the foreigner!" (Barnes and Weston)	Miss Marie Loftus
"I would! I would!" (Stanhope and Cunliffe)	H. Bedford
"I want to be a Soldier" (Gifford and Lawrance)	W. Cunliffe
"I did enjoy myself last night" (Lawrence and M. Scott)	Hamilton Hill.
"I don't mind if it amuses you!" (Leigh and Pether)	Will Johnson
"If all the stars were mine" (Smith and Stromberg)	Ben Albert
"I'm Afraid—and Why?" (Wincott, Leighton, and Mayo)	Miss Lilian Doreen
"I'm a girl of Tennessee" (Eden and Byng)	Sam Mayo
"I'm coming home to you" (Herbert Darnley)	Miss Lil Hawthorne
"I'm going to sea [see]" (Leamore and Collins)	Miss D. L. Clark
"I'm round there to-night!" (Wincott and Leighton)	Tom Leamore
"Isn't that like a Man?" (Paul Mill)	Dan Crawley
"It's all right in the summer time" (Murray & Everard)	Paul Mill
"It's the Poor that help the Poor" (Mills and Castling)	Miss Vesta Victoria
"I've been a Naughty Boy all Day" (Carter and Weston)	Miss F. Gallimore
"Jolly Jarge" (Mills and Arthurs)	Miss G. Leonard
"Julia" (Robson and Hyde)	George Bastow
"Just a Girl" (Elton and Harrison)	Miss Gladys Mavius
"Little Brown Dove" (Hales, Swaffer, and H. E. Darewski, jun.	Miss Minnie Cunningham
"Little Jap Horner" (F. V. St. Clair)	Miss Winifred Hare
"Ma Havannah Queen" (Gifford and Lawrance)	F. V. St. Clair
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"My Paleface Queen" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Eugene Stratton
"My Fiddle is My Sweetheart" (Harry Hunter)	Miss Amy Clevere
"My Japanesy Girl" (Delmar and Parry)	G. H. Chirgwin
"My Lily of the Valley" (Frank Leo)	Hal Forde
"Pussy had another Sardine" (Harris and Tate)	Miss Sadie Fern
"Revenges" (Dunlop and Pether)	Miss Millie Lindon
[Above also sung by Whit Cunliffe].	Wallis Arthur
"She must have known!" (David and Scott)	J. E. Coyle
"She said, 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'" (Harrington and H. Allen)	Miss Florrie Forde
"She taught him a thing or two, too" (Leigh and Le Brunn)	Miss E. Douglas
"Sit on 'em and keep 'em warm" (Wincott & Leighton)	Harry Champion
"Take this message to my sweetheart" (Mills and Castling)	Miss Marie Kendall
"That's him! That's him! That's him!" (Mills and Scott)	Harry Freeman
"The Boarding House Keeper" (Dickson and Randall)	Harry Randall.
"The New Insurance" (Arthurs and Lyle)	Ernest Shand
"The New Perjarma 'Ai'" (T. W. Connor)	Gus Elen
"The Playground in the Sky" (Bateman and Pether)	Milner Verren
"The Covent Garden Ball" (C. Cardow)	Chas. Cardow
"There goes my Soldier-Boy!" (Leigh and Savage)	Everybody.
"There was something on his mind" (Leigh and Le Brunn)	
"The Saftest o' the Family" (Lauder and Beaton)	Miss Marie Lloyd
"The Seaside Sultan" (C. W. Murphy)	Harry Lauder
"The Statue in Trafalgar Square" (Arthurs and Lyle)	Miss Vesta Tilley
"The Truth or a Lie?" (Barnes and Weston)	George Lashwood
"The Ugly Duckling" (Murphy and Lipton)	George D'Albert
[Above also sung by Park's Eton Boys, Miss Ella Dean, and Miss Phyllis Dare.]	Miss Edith Courtney
"The Workhouse Gate" (Shelley and Philpot)	Herbert Shelley
"Then She Started Tickle-ing" (Mills and Carter)	Pat Rafferty
"Therein Lurks Unseen Danger" (E. W. Rogers)	Arthur Rigby
"There's another one out of work" (T. W. Connor)	George Brooks
"Three Makes Jolly Fine Company" (Rogers and Collins)	Arthur Lenrard
"Topsy-Turvy" (Geo. Rollit)	Arthur Roberts
"'Twas a Dark and Stormy Night" (Alf Ellerton)	T. E. Dunville
"What a Beautiful World it would be!" (Helliar and Wentworth)	Miss Fanny Wentworth
"What's the Good of a Pair of Kilts?" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Coyne

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1905.

ABOUT THE DU BARRY.

Realisation is one of the most valuable functions of the stage. A production like Mr. GILBERT HARE and Mrs. BROWN POTTER'S *Du Barri* gives different pleasures to different sorts of people. In the superior persons who know everything it creates Recognition; in the average man, Curiosity. And the average man, if the play be not too historically erroneous, imbibes also a certain amount of information. Even the superior person learns something from seeing things as well as reading about them. If any superior person should chance to peruse this article, we apologise in advance for wasting his time in considering how far M. JEAN RICHEPIN has had to pervert facts in order to produce an acting play on the subject of the DU BARRY.

As every ignoramus knows, the young woman who took the name of VAUBERNIER to go to court with had not the least right to it. She was the natural daughter of a poor woman called ANNE BECU. Mademoiselle BECU was placed in a convent by one of her reputed fathers, a certain Brother LANGE; and, in process of time, she was engaged in a dressmaker's shop in the Rue Saint-Honoré. After a preliminary *liaison* with a hairdresser, the young person, who had a soul above ribbons, met, at a gambling den, the Comte JEAN DU BARRY, and contracted with him an alliance offensive and defensive.

This DU BARRY was a gentleman of Toulouse, ruined by his dissipations, who claimed descent from the English Barrymores. He came to Paris, tried diplomacy, and failed; and then he obtained a "place" where he could take "pickings" from the army contracts. His income from this simple source failing to satisfy his wants, he looked round him for some way of increasing it. Madame de POMPADOUR, the late mistress of LOUIS XV., had been dead some years. Though only the daughter of a domestic, she had plenty of pluck. "Wait a moment," said she on her deathbed to the *curé* who had visited, and was about to leave her "Wait a moment, and we will go off together." And then she departed this life, leaving the post of King's mistress—the most important and influential in the kingdom—unfilled. For a long time before her demise, however, she and LOUIS had ceased to live together as man and mistress. The POMPADOUR did not "wear well." She got thin, and was troubled with various feminine complaints. It was as much as she could do to amuse and occupy the monarch; she ceased to charm him.

The jackal, or "lion's provider," of the King's pleasures was a fellow named LEBEL. Before leaving him, we may indicate his end, which was characteristic. He presented the DU BARRY to the King, with the idea that she would only inspire a passing caprice. When he saw that the monarch had taken a "serious liking" to the lady, LEBEL worried LOUIS with arguments about her low birth. The King lost his temper, and made a blow at the poor Purveyor with the tongs with which he was making up the fire. This mark of royal disfavour was too much for poor LEBEL, who very loyally took a "hepatic colic," and died two days after, *not* in the odour of sanctity.

Mademoiselle BECU eventually made one of a little supper party at Versailles, the King watching her from the next room through a hole made in a wall. What he saw was a typical "pretty Frenchwoman" of the eighteenth century. She had very beautiful hair, long, of an ashy blonde colour, and marvellously silky. A lock of it is still treasured, and those who have touched it are astonished at its floss-like texture. Her eyebrows were brown, her lashes turned up at the tips, and her eyes, which were generally half-closed, were blue. Her nose was finely cut, and her mouth was a veritable "Cupid's bow." Her complexion was of the "milk and roses" kind; and her figure was perfectly proportioned and exquisitely finished. What an improvement on the POMPADOUR!

In order that the new favourite might be formally presented at court, and become "mistress in title" to the King, she had to be married. The Comte JEAN found the "very man" for the business—his brother WILLIAM, who, after undergoing the ceremony, retired richly remunerated to Toulouse. The new countess established herself at Versailles. The Court was up in arms against her at once, not, be it understood, on account of her immorality, but on the ground of her doubtful origin. However, her friends got an impoverished dame, the old Maréchal de MIREPOIX, to espouse the cause of the newcomer for a handsome consideration. RICHELIEU, a rather ridiculous old rake, who is chiefly remembered by some in authentic and indecent Memoirs, went over to her side. The DU BARRY party was in the ascendant.

The Favourite did not find her position embarrassing. Illustrative incident. The Prince de CONDE, a prince of the blood, wanted a sinecure. Evening assembly at Madame DU BARRY'S. The King is seated before the fire, with his feet on the mantelpiece. Enter the Prince, who urges his claims on the Favourite, and concludes, grumbling: "You are indeed cruel. You promised me the place of Grand Master of Artillery!" "That's right, so I did!" says the DU BARRY. "Well, now I *un*-promise it!" And she puts out her tongue at him. The King laughs.

Her great charm for LOUIS was her vulgarity. She made it quite the fashion at Court. On one occasion, while she was "touching-up" before a mirror, LOUIS, in hanging round her, forgot his coffee, which, left on the fire too long, boiled over. The DU BARRY, seeing this in the glass, called out: "Hi! France! Look out, your coffee's going to blazes!"—or French to that effect. She made the Papal nuncio put her slippers on for her as she sat on her bed in *déshabillé*. Statesmen, magistrates, princes, and princesses fawned even upon her pet animals and pampered negro, ZAMORE. The only one in the Court who held out against her was MARIE ANTOINETTE, whom the DU BARRY tried in vain, by every means, even by an offered present of diamonds, to propitiate.

And so things went on until, in 1771, the King began to realise that he was over sixty. Those who had introduced the DU BARRY now tried to "push" other attractions. D'AIGUILLON suggested a beautiful Dutchwoman, the Countess of NEWKERKE. TERRAY, one of the gang who "ran" the DU BARRY, had a certain Madame D'AMERVAL ready for presentation; Comte JEAN'S new idea was the DU BARRY'S own niece, Madame ADOLPHE; LOUIS'S daughter, Madame LOUISE, a Carmelite nun, had her scheme for marrying him respectably to an archduchess. When the King was going away to see Madame LOUISE about this business, the DU BARRY, throwing herself at his feet, said that she knew her ruin was resolved on, and that she would prefer to take her dismissal from his own lips. They even thought of matching LOUIS with the Princess LAMBALLE. "I might do worse," said the King, when the DU BARRY teased him about it.

The game, indeed, was almost up. LOUIS grew grave and gloomy—almost moral. Little accidents assisted. He was playing piquet one evening with the Favourite, and the Marquis de CHAUVELIN, an old friend and co-debauchee of the King's, was leaning on the arm of LOUIS'S chair. "What a face you are making, Monsieur de CHAUVELIN!" said the DU BARRY. The King turned to look; CHAUVELIN fell down dead. They found it a case of apoplexy. Soon after, LOUIS caught the small-pox and died; and that, for all practical and political purposes, was the end of Madame DU BARRY. "Only a minute more, Mr. Executioner!" she screamed to SANSON for delay, when they guillotined her in '93. She had grown extremely fat, and the over-used axe failed at first stroke to end her agony.

SHAKESPEARE WITHOUT SCENERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Tree's performance of *Hamlet* without scenery, which has been referred to by some of the Press as a "novel experiment," may I venture to point out that I have been giving annually a series of Shakespearean performances for years past at the Court, Royalty, and other theatres, and also at the East End of London, on a draped stage. During that time I have produced no less than eighteen plays, most of which you have kindly noticed, under these conditions. I believe, also, that Mr. William Poel has recently given performances in a similar manner.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES FRY.

"THE LITTLE MORE."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by H. C. M. Hardinge, Produced at a Matinée, at the Court Theatre, on Monday, March 20.

Harold Gifford, J.P.	MR. DAWSON MILWARD
Leslie	MR. W. GRAHAM BROWNE
Tom Gifford	MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Sir Noel Cruickshanks, Bart.	MR. LENNOX PAWLE
Frank Hastynges, M.F.H.	MR. GOODRICH
Mr. Vestry	MR. LORING FERNIE
Hobbs	MR. ORLANDO BARNETT
Lady Cruickshanks	MISS LENA HALLIDAY
Nora Gifford	MISS BABARA HANNAY
Mrs. Hastynges	MISS DI FORBES
Mrs. Gifford	MISS HENRIETTA WATSON

The author of this new play has given yet another version of the story of the prodigal son. At the same time, he has sought to illustrate the meaning of the line from Browning, "Oh, the little more, and how much it is," by bringing before us a painful family history, the central figure of which is the wife and mother. The play contains some powerful and impressive scenes, but would have been improved by judicious cutting here and there.

Harold Gifford is a country gentleman, living with his wife and daughter at Priory Meads, a fine old mansion. He is a justice of the peace, and he has perhaps even more than the ordinary Englishman's love of sport. On the surface everything seems to be going well with this typical English family. But there is a skeleton in the cupboard, and a very ugly one, too. Harold Gifford's only son, Leslie, has got into disgrace, and been banished his home. So serious has been his offence, that his father will have nothing more to do with him, and has forbidden that his son's name should be mentioned in his hearing. Mrs. Gifford does not share the sporting tastes of her husband and her daughter, Nora. She is artistic to her finger-tips; she paints and plays and sings. Her boy also preferred the artist's studio to a ride across country with his sport-loving father and sister; hence the extra strong bond of union between mother and son. And now that he has been banished she feels alone. She craves for the sympathy—for "the little more"—that neither husband nor daughter is able to give. Harold Gifford is a good man, and a just, and he always treats his wife with kindness, but he does not understand her nature, and has utterly failed to appreciate the all-powerful feelings of the mother deprived of her first-born. Just as her husband and some friends who are staying at the hall are about to set off on an eel-spearing expedition, Hobbs, the faithful old family servant, secretly informs his mistress that her son Leslie has come to the house, and is waiting to see her. Her agitation nearly betrays her; and when the party have gone, the prodigal son enters to receive the fond embraces of his mother. Leslie Gifford is "a bad lot"—he admits it himself, and it is not long before he proves the truth of his assertion. While his mother has gone to fetch him food and drink, he discovers on the couch a gold necklace, which his cousin, Tom Gifford, has just given as a present to Nora, to whom he is engaged. Leslie pockets the trinket, and on his mother's return, tells her that he is in a scrape, and will be sent to prison unless she can let him have £100. She hands him all the money she has in her cash-box, and a valuable lace wrapper she is wearing. He then hurriedly departs. Gifford returns home earlier than his wife expected him, and the marks of a man's muddy boots on the carpet, and the cash-box, arouse his suspicions. He asks her if Leslie has been there, and she replies in the negative. Then Nora appears; she has missed her sweetheart's present, and has come to search for it, little dreaming that it has been stolen by her own brother.

In the second act, three months having elapsed, we find that the relations of husband and wife are still strained, and that Tom Gifford has sent for Vestry, a famous detective, to investigate the robbery. Gifford is compelled to admit to Tom that his own son is the thief, but nothing is done to prevent the detective proceeding with his enquiries. One would have thought that as Tom Gifford is engaged to Leslie's sister, he would have paid the detective his fee and sent him away. The necklace is discovered in the grounds by Lady Cruickshanks, a very officious visitor, and the detective finds Leslie lurking in the neighbourhood and promptly brings him before Mr. Gifford, and applies for a warrant. The young man has assumed a false name, and at the request of Mr. Gifford the detective retires to the adjoining room. There is a strong scene between father and son, who upbraids his father for his lack of sympathy, and refuses to accept the proffered opportunity of escaping the penalty of his crime. He does this to punish his father. In the last act, Leslie, released from prison, returns to his former home to refuse his father's aid, and to say bitter things to him. The young man's unnatural conduct to his father has changed his mother's feelings towards him, and eventually husband and wife are brought together, while Leslie, half-repentant, accepts his father's assistance, and promises to go abroad and turn over a new leaf.

The play was excellently acted, Miss Henrietta Watson having by far the heaviest rôle. This clever actress, however, proved fully equal to the occasion, and presented a touching picture of the mother who is passionately attached to her erring boy. She also played admirably in the scenes with the unsympathetic husband, Harold Gifford, a part that was embodied with power and feeling by Mr. Dawson Milward. Mr. W. Graham Browne did exceedingly well in the rôle of Leslie Gifford; as presented by him the character was thoroughly life-like and real. Mr. A. S. Homewood was good as Tom Gifford, and Miss Babara Hannay was vivacious as Nora. Mr. Lennox Pawle gave a humorous rendering of Sir Noel Cruickshanks, Bart., a henpecked husband, whose partner in life was amusingly depicted by Miss Lena Halliday. Mr. Goodrich, as Frank Hastynges, M.F.H., and Miss Di Forbes, as Mrs. Hastynges, lent able assistance. Mr. Loring Fernie deserves every credit for his neat sketch of the famous detective, and Mr. Orlando Barnett scored as the old butler, Hobbs. At the conclusion, the author shared with the company the honour of a special call.

The principal piece was preceded by a Spanish Episode, in one act, by H. C. M. Hardinge, entitled

"THE DANCER."

Señor Ramirez	MR. SINCLAIR FORBES
Gonzalo	MR. JAMES GELDERD
Mañuel	MR. HENRY TWYFORD
Perez	MR. CLIVE
Pilar	MISS MARGARET BUSSE
Conchita	MISS MABILIA DANIELL

In this somewhat artificial little piece the plot turns upon the arrest of a notorious smuggler, named Gonzalo, with whom Conchita, famous as a dancer, is in love. He has been condemned to death, the sentence to be carried out at dawn. Señor Ramirez, the alcalde of the village, is an admirer of Conchita, and she having disappeared from the neighbourhood, he is anxious to learn her whereabouts. He therefore has Gonzalo brought before him and questions him, offering the smuggler his freedom if he will tell him where Conchita is to be found. The prisoner, however, declares that he does not know; but presently the dancing girl herself puts in an appearance, and obtains an interview with her lover. This is interrupted by Ramirez, who gives the prisoner another chance of liberty and life. He will allow the smuggler to flee to the mountains, where he will be safe, provided that he, on his way there, escapes the bullets of the three sentries whom he will have to pass. The señor also gives Gonzalo to understand that Conchita has already departed. But when the smuggler has fled, the girl is summoned, and telling her of the danger her lover is in, the Alcalde bids her dance. If she disobeys he will fire a gun, which will warn the sentries and seal the fate of Gonzalo. The poor girl is compelled to dance, and her attempt to stab the cruel official to the heart is frustrated. She dances on until, plunging the dagger into her own breast, she falls apparently dead at his feet; and this brings the play to a conclusion.

Miss Mabilia Daniell as Conchita proved herself to be a graceful dancer, and Miss Margaret Bussé was animated and natural as Pilar, a singing girl, who is jealous of Conchita. Mr. Sinclair Forbes played well as Señor Ramirez, and Mr. James Gelderd made good use of his opportunities as Gonzalo. The guards had satisfactory representatives in Messrs. Henry Twyford and Clive.

The matinée was on behalf of the Distressed Gentlefolks' Aid Association, which is under the patronage of the Queen and other members of the Royal Family.

"DU BARRI."

Play, in Three Acts, Prologue, and Epilogue, by Jean Richepin, adapted for the English Stage by Christopher St. John, produced at the Savoy Theatre, on Saturday, March 18.

Louis XV.	MR. GILBERT HARE
Prince Rohan Rochefort	MR. A. HOLMES-GORE
Jean du Barri	MR. WILLIAM L. ABINGDON
Duc du Richelieu	MR. HERBERT ROSS
The Abbé Terray	MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW
La Martiniere	MR. CLARENCE BLAKISTON
Lebel	MR. WILLIAM DEVEREUX
Duc d'Aiguillon	MR. R. HENDERSON BLAND
Duc de Brissac	MR. RICHARD BOLEYN
Officer	MR. SYDNEY HAMILTON
Petry	MR. FRANK COLLINS
Dehant	MR. VICTOR BRIDGES
Zamore	Master JACK FROST
Bernard	MR. HERBERT VYVIAN
Morin	MR. C. H. HEWETSON
Greive	MR. CLARENCE BLAKISTON
Postmaster General	MR. FRED GROVES.
Labille	MR. HARRY DODD
Gaoler	MR. ARCHER
Peasant	MR. R. ASHLEY MARVIN
Jeannette Vaubernier	Mrs. BROWN-POTTER
Madame Labille	MISS ELSIE CHESTER
Ursule	MISS LYDIA RACHAEL
Colette	MISS AUDREY FORD
Florence	MISS R. GRIMSTON
Lison	MISS ETHEL BURNAND
Margot	MISS NELLIE MOORE
La Beauvoisin	MISS HELEN ROBERTSON
Madame Desmousseaux	MISS HELEN ROUS
Duchesse de Montmorenci	MISS VIOLA FINNEY
Duchesse d'Aiguillon	MISS MAUD TOWNSEND
Marechale de Mirepoix	MISS SARA DE GROOT.
Duchesse d'Egmont	MISS THALMA ARCHER
Peasants	MISS MARION TURNER, MISS JOAN WELLMAN

The amount of "licence" which may be allowed to a dramatist in dealing with historical subjects is not easily defined. We remember a certain very serious article in a literary review taking Carlyle quite severely to task for the inaccuracy of his account of the attempted escape of Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette from France. The author waxed especially wrath over Carlyle's reference to the "white apron" of the landlord of the inn at Varennes; when, as every schoolmaster ought to know, French landlords do not wear aprons. Personally, an error of this sort seems immaterial to us, as not impairing the Image of the Time created by the narrative. In the same way, we care very little about the way in which M. Jean Richepin, and, after him, "Mr. Christopher St. John," have whitewashed the Du Barry. A play is nothing without its sympathetic personages; and we can easily forgive a playwright either for inventing imaginary individuals for his plot, or for altering the characters of his personages when they refuse, as artists say, to "compose." In a Du Barry, or "Du Barri," play—we must not be too particular about a letter—we can condone many minor inaccuracies, especially as history itself has so often been written in the same spirit of adaptation.

For these good reasons, we have nothing but gratitude for Mr. Gilbert Hare and Mrs. Brown Potter for the production of *Du Barri*. It is no small luxury to have put before us the Image of the Time of 1770. There is no eloquence like that of Accessories. Reading about things is not the same thing as seeing them. We protest that nothing which we have ever perused about the period when Vice was deprived of all its coarseness, &c., ever made us realise the temptations of the time better than the scene in *Du Barri* in which Mrs. Brown Potter, preparing to receive visitors, gets into bed with her clothes on. No wonder the Republicans went to extremes of roughness and simplicity in reaction against such dainty witcheries! First the Maids of Honour—courtesy title—enter and cover the great couch with a crimson, silver-glittering counterpane. Then the Du Barri, marvellously attired, gets into bed; and somebody brings her a big bouquet of roses, which she holds erect, a little tree of pink blossoms. This scene is more "Louis Quinze" even than the elaborate fête in the third act, the ballet in which is exquisitely pretty and artistic. But all the scenes are excellent, from the dressmaker's shop of the first division of the piece to the Pavilion at Versailles, and the Rue St. Honoré, with the mob howling and demonstrating around the tumbrils. But why are the howlers armed with immense tomahawks of metal, apparently plated? Is there authority for this display?

For the plot, it is just the Du Barri story, treated as any practical playwright would be obliged to treat it. The lady becomes a kind of "giddy darling," intoxicated by the joy of living; and is provided at the dramatist's expense with an inveterate and self-sacrificing admirer.

The story is divided as follows. We first of all see Jeannette Vaubernier in the milliner's shop where she is employed. To Prince Rohan Rochefort, who adores her virtuously, she gives a bow of pink ribbon. He returns it to her with his Order of St. Louis tied to it; and promises that he will come to her assistance whenever she sends him the token. The rascally Comte Jean du Barri, with an eye to business, entices Jeannette from her servitude, and presents her to the King at a supper-party at Versailles. He is at once "smitten" with the new beauty; and the second act ends with her immediate success with the Monarch.

In the next act, we are shown the favourite in all her glory, spending the public money right and left, putting down one minister and exalting another, and receiving great ladies at her *levées*. Prince Rohan, who fought a duel with the Comte after Jeannette's departure from the shop, and was banished in consequence, is waiting about outside the Du Barri's house at Versailles. Jeannette still cherishes the bow with the cross. The King finds it and throws it out of window in a fit of jealousy. Rohan, taking this for a signal that his help is required, enters; and the King comes with a party of soldiers in search of his rival. He is, however, concealed by the Du Barri's maid in her bed, and thus escapes. In the third act, at Louveciennes, where the favourite gives the King a magnificent fête, Du Barri informs Louis of the presence, in disguise, of Rohan; and the King, enraged, orders the Prince's arrest, and casts the Du Barri off for ever.

In the epilogue, the Revolution has been accomplished, and the Convention is in power. Jeannette is arrested as a Royalist, taken to the Conciergerie, and condemned to death. The Abbé Terray, an old friend of hers, obtains admission to her cell on pretence of confessing her, and gives her a pass out of the prison, so that she may escape. She prefers to save Rohan, who is also to be guillotined, and hands him the paper, pretending that she has a similar one, and will follow him. In the last division of the epilogue, we see her going to death on a tumbril, amidst the howls of the customary Revolutionary mob, whose energy suggests that, if they were, as is reported, paid by Robespierre, they certainly earned their money by their exertions.

The story is interesting, and is told with good grace; but the mounting puts all M. Richepin's ability into the shade. To add to the enjoyment of the evening, Mrs. Brown Potter was seen in a part which offered her more opportunities and fewer difficulties than any in which we have seen her this season. She was pretty enough and fickle enough as the Du Barri; and, in the Court scenes, she was both agreeably animated and appropriately meretricious. Mr. Gilbert Hare's Louis XV. had the all-important and uncommon merit of distinction. Distinction, carried to the highest power, and almost concealing the signs of exhaustion—that is the keynote of the character; and if Mr. Hare did not exaggerate the exhaustion of the monarch, his style and deportment were unimpeachable. Mr. A. Holmes-Gore, as the persevering and much-excusing adorer of the Du Barri, acted with all the needed poetic fervour and romantic earnestness; and made a very picturesque *jeune premier*. The other rôles were, without exception, admirably enacted. Mr. William L. Abingdon's Jean du Barri had not only the malevolent intensity and repulsive cunning required, but also the overdone affectation of the adventurer; and Mr. Herbert Ross gave a clever and comical interpretation of the rôle of the Duc de Richelieu. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw supplied a bold, reposeful, and significant embodiment of the Abbé Terray; and Mr. Clarence Blakiston was smooth and easy as La Martinière, Mr. William Devereux giving a most effective embodiment of Lebel. Mr. R. Henderson Bland did good work as the Duc d'Aiguillon; and Mr. Richard Boleyn was a stout and sturdy Duc de Brissac. Mr. Clarence Blakiston was stony-hearted sternness personified as Greive; and Miss Elsie Chester was thoroughly efficient as Madame Labille, Miss Lydia Rachael doing sound work as Ursule in the prison scene, and Miss Audrey Ford being smart and bright as Colette. Miss Helen Robertson made an excellent appearance as La Beauvoisin; and Miss Helen Rous acted with vigour as Madame Desmousseaux, Miss Thalma Archer putting plenty of spirit into her performance as the Duchesse d'Egmont. There was, indeed, not an ill-played part in the whole cast. There is so much in *Du Barri* that a second notice is almost necessary for full examination of its many merits. The audience at the Savoy on Saturday fully appreciated the skill of the author and the artistic enterprise of the management. They cheered and applauded at the conclusion most enthusiastically; and there can be little doubt that the production will have the prosperous career which it deserves.

"THE THIEVES' COMEDY."

Play, in Four Acts, by G. Hauptmann, English translation by Christopher Horne, produced at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday, March 21.

Frau Wolff	MISS ROSINA FILIPPI
Frau Motes	MISS AGNES THOMAS
Adelheid	MISS S. FAIRBROTHER.
Leontine	MISS GRETA HAHN
Von Wehrhahn	MR. W. LUGG
Kruger	MR. WM. FARREN, Junr.
Fleischer	MR. HENRY VIBART
Motes	MR. RUDGE HARDING
Julius Wolff	MR. JAMES HEARN
Wulkoff	MR. EDMUND GWENN
Glasenapp	MR. NORMAN PAGE
Mitteldorf	MR. HARRY DODD
Philip	MASTER TONGE

The Thieves' Comedy is a piece ending in a "note of interrogation." During three acts of the play, we are looking forward to some ingenious or surprising denouement. But, just when we expect to arrive at this, the author "puts us off, slights us," as the Servant says of Autolycus, with a lame and impotent conclusion. The method reminds us very much of the schoolboy trick, by which a person, taking up a book, is led on by requests to look at certain pages mentioned in succession, until at last he finds himself, unsatisfied, at the end of the volume. But the piece is so genuinely real and so admirably acted that it makes a very acceptable two and a-half hours' entertainment.

The leading personage of the play is a dominating, hard-working, artful woman of the people, named Frau Wolff. Her husband, a stupid, laborious fellow, is ruled by her completely; she is the manageress and the "schemer" of the family. Money is hard to get; and Frau Wolff urges her husband to embark on a career of petty larceny. Having primed him with drink, she coaxes him to steal a load of wood, belonging to a neighbour named Kruger, and to follow up the theft by that of a fur coat owned by the same person.

The Thieves' Comedy then resolves itself into a satire on "justices' justice" in Germany. The representative of the Great Unpaid is a certain Von Wehrhahn, a muddle-headed official. The caricature would probably be better appreciated in Germany than here; indeed, Von Wehrhahn, with his high, betasseled boots and white breeches, is not the English idea of a country magistrate. He is an egregious ass; and the comedy of the piece consists in the way in which he is deluded by the plausible Frau Wolff and in the offensive manner in which he treats the enraged Kruger and a mild Socialist named Fleischer, who endeavours in vain to put the official on the track of the thief of the coat.

The piece is simply a series of character studies; and it gave the members of the cast at the Court Theatre on Tuesday opportunities for some remarkably finished acting. The mainstay of the performance was Miss Rosina Filippi, whose Frau Wolff was a vigorously graphic, genial, and most effective embodiment, natural, easy, and drily humorous. Mr. W. Lugg contributed a most amusing depiction of Von Wehrhahn, his make-up being particularly good, and his emphasis of the conceit and assumption of the character being extremely telling. A quietly droll interpretation was that of the stupid, surly peasant, Julius Wolff, which was contributed by Mr. James Hearn. Mr. Harry Dodd's subdued but very comical performance as the stupid policeman, Mitteldorf, deserved warm praise; and Miss Sydney Fairbrother was capital as the impudent, lazy Adelheid, Miss Greta Hahn giving an excellent representation of Leontine. Mr. William Farren, jun., was commendably fierce and fervent as Kruger, and Mr. Henry Vibart's Fleischer was the ideal of a gentle reformer. Miss Agnes Thomas hit off, with a few neat touches, the sly Frau Motes; and Mr. Rudge Harding, as the smiling, vulpine Motes, was cleverly characteristic. Mr. Norman Page gave a neat embodiment of Glasenapp; and Mr. Edmund Gwenn was solidly funny as the boatman, Wulkoff. We were about to refer to the "conclusion of the piece." *The Thieves' Comedy*, however, has no conclusion—it simply ends. After the magistrate has blundered sufficiently, the curtain falls on his expression of his complete confidence in plausible Frau Wolff. Nevertheless, the audience, grateful for the afternoon's entertainment, applauded the artists in the cast enthusiastically.

PRESENTATION.—At the Theatre Royal, Breck-road, Liverpool, on the 17th inst., Mr. M. Montgomery, the proprietor, was presented with a gold-mounted umbrella, his son, Mr. Gerald Montgomery, deputy-manager of the Westminster Music Hall, receiving a silver-mounted stick, and a similar gift being handed to Mr. O'Toole, the acting-manager of the Royal. The giver was Mr. D. Barnard, theatrical agent.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

At a specially-convened meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, yesterday (Friday), it was determined to publish a full report of their doings in respect of the appointment of a new treasurer, *pro tem.*, of the Association, and an explanation of the Association's work. It is to be hoped that the Association will speedily find an issue out of the *impasse* that is now hampering its operations., and causing a great deal of uneasiness to many worthy people.

Plans have already been prepared for the Tottenham-court-road Theatre of Varieties, and will shortly be laid before the London County Council. The new music hall will be erected on a site close to, and on the same side of the road as, the famous Horse Shoe Hotel.

A good story is told of Mr. Thos. Barrasford. At the opening of his new house at Lille on March 4 it appears that the orchestra was enormously interested in the wonderful dancing of some English artiste, and the bandsmen kept rising in their seats to gain a better view of the stage. Mr. Barrasford was in the front in the stalls, and every time the orchestra arose he "shooed" them down with his umbrella, much to the delight of the audience, who took it to be a comic entrée.

Mr. Frank Keegan and company will produce at Collins's, on Monday, a knockabout act, entitled *Everyday Cyclists*. It has been arranged by Mr. Wal Pink, and Mr. George Le Brunn has written the music. Mr. Frank Keegan is the son of the late Mr. Joe Keegan, and is, therefore, brother of Mr. Joe Elvin, and the old music-hall frequenter will be glad once more to see in a variety programme the familiar name—a name that was, moreover, most honourably associated with the early struggles of the halls.

Mr. Alec Hurley will produce his new operatic coster comedietta, *The Costers' Beanfeast*, at the Empress, Brixton, on Easter Monday. He will be assisted by a host of auxiliaries, and three special scenes are being painted for it by Bull. The entire production will be under the special supervision of Mr. G. Adney Payne. Mr. John P. Harrington is responsible for the libretto and lyrics, and Mr. George Le Brunn has composed the music.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have accepted for publication Miss Millie Hylton's new song of the Georgian period, entitled "The Days of Tom and Jerry," written and composed by Messrs. John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn. Pierce Egan's work on the same subject was the basis of an excellent spectacular piece, which was produced at the Surrey in the palmy days of the drama.

Mr. George Robey has been writing on the question "Are Music Halls vulgar?" and considers vulgarity has been divorced from variety by decree absolute of the public and the performer. Indeed, he considers vulgarity on the music hall stage as dead "as the mastodon or the dodo." Mr. Robey also locks upon tights—which, he says, often shock sensitive people—as an old-fashioned institution, and asserts that they are not cared for by the majority of people. Ladies, he thinks, would realise masculinity much better in knickerbockers. Why not bloomers, Mr. Robey? The "prime minister of mirth" will introduce London audiences shortly to Queen Elizabeth, who will "beshrew me" in the old sweet way—or rather in a way that we may be sure will be extremely droll.

The Grand, Clapham, certainly had the laugh of its neighbours on Saturday night, when a sudden failure of the electric light supplied by the municipal authorities compelled most of the shops to close, whereas the Grand, having its own electric light plant, was in its usual bright and happy condition. Not so fortunate was the Battersea Empire, where the audience, plunged into sudden darkness, had to be reluctantly turned out just before the completion of the first house performance—and it was not until close on half-past ten that the defect in the supply was remedied, when the energetic manager, Mr. Lennox Barry, reopened the house, charging twopence only for admission.

Mr. Rutland Barrington will commence an engagement at the Coliseum on April 10, when he will appear at the 3 and 9 o'clock performances in a monologue, reciting one of Mr. W. W. Jacobs's stories from "Many Cargoes," and concluding with a topical song from his Daly's Theatre repertory. This is the first time, we believe, that the name of Mr. W. W. Jacobs, who is the author of "The Monkey's Paw" and part author of *Beauty and the Barge*, has ever appeared in a variety theatre programme; but when the sketch difficulty is cleared away there should be plenty of room for clever adaptations from his stories on the music hall boards, to which Mr. Barrington will be a most distinguished and valuable recruit.

Mr. Walter Stephens, of 12, Haymarket, is erecting both the Lewisham and the Putney music halls, to which we referred in these columns last week. The first is to be started forthwith, now that the London County Council have passed Mr. Stephens's plans. They have further passed his block site plan re Putney, and have agreed to grant a lease to Mr. G. W. Cooper for ninety-nine years for the High-street site, he in turn underleasing it to Mr. Stephens, to enable that gentleman to erect the hall. The detailed plans are now going on to the Council, who have also before them the block site plan of the Kilburn site. Mr. Stephens also proposes to erect a variety theatre at Kingston.

The London stage is to see just a few Hamlets in the near future. The latest to be added to the roll is Mr. Bransby Williams, who at the Empire on Monday proposes to introduce the peculiar kind of moody Dane who is generally to be found on the boards of a travelling booth at fair time.

Mr. Williams gave his characters from the novels of Charles Dickens and his imitations of popular actors at a matinée on behalf of the funds of Westminster Hospital at 2, Egerton-place, the residence of Mr. H. F. Dickens, K.C. Among those who assisted were Miss Olive Dickens and Miss Elaine Dickens. Miss Hogarth, who was present, was greatly struck with the strains of the old song, "He'll wake again to-morrow," and told the young actor how Dickens loved it, and how his daughter used to sing it to him. The tables were strewn with Dickens's favourite flower, the red geranium, and his picture was hung with them. Behind Mr. Williams's table was hung a copy of Maclise's famous picture of Dickens as a young man.

Mr. Sydney Stanton and Mr. Maurice Wilmot will shortly appear at a prominent West End hall in their novel and artistic scena, *King and Courtier*, by Harold Godwin. This will be its first appearance in the West End. Up till now it has been successfully played at most of our suburban halls. The period is that of the Merry Monarch, one of the characters. Another is Rochester.

A new comedy-opera in three acts, entitled *Monsieur Max*, will have a suburban trial trip in the autumn. The book and lyrics are by Myles Wallerton, and the music has been composed by Bernard St. Eon.

Considerable regret will be felt by the lovers of variety in Hull at the news of the intending retirement of Mr. A. Graham, the resident manager of the Palace Theatre, Hull. Mr. Graham has been connected with the hall since its opening, and has made for himself a reputation for urbanity and courtesy difficult to beat. With most of the charitable movements of the city he has identified himself. Mr. Graham leaves Hull to take charge of his own music hall in the North of England.

The People's Palace, Bridlington, was offered on Wednesday. Bidding commenced at £10,000, and the property was withdrawn at £13,500—report says on behalf of Moss' Empires; but there is no confirmation of this. The sum offered was not far off the reserve price.

Dr. Walford Bodie, the famous exponent of bloodless surgery and electricity, has again taken London by storm. He opened last Monday at the Britannia Theatre, where he is repeating the success of his former visits, the huge building being packed nightly. On Monday next he will produce for the first time in London his latest sensation, Mystic Marie, "The Real Trilby," in her wonderful demonstration of mental telepathy. Mr. Barrasford has invited all the London Press to witness this wonderful act, and proprietors, managers, and agents should not miss seeing it.

Last week we briefly recorded the death of the father of Mr. Mendel, the blind pianist. He passed away on the 15th inst. after an illness of four months, and since November last the deceased gentleman had had to give up taking his son before audiences. In response to a telegram sent a week previous to his father's death, Mr. Mendel made a journey from Hull, but a wonderful rally enabled him to resume his engagement at the Palace there on the Friday. The end, though, came sooner than was expected. The funeral of the deceased took place on Monday from Balham.

An "extra turn" was provided at the Palace, Blackpool, on the 18th inst., when a new dramatic scena, entitled *The Statue in the Square*, written by Mr. J. Cowper Worden, was produced. The piece is full of dramatic interest from beginning to end, and had quite as moral a tendency as *The Message from Mars*. The statue, awakened to life, sermonises with immediate effect the young swell mobsman who is fleecing a reckless, but good-hearted,, young swell. Two songs, "My Shadow in the Square" and "Oh, did'nt he gamble," are introduced, and, as a first production, the scena was a distinct success.. The characters were ably impersonated by Mr. Paul Kneave (George), Mr. Victor Ledbury (Charlie), Miss Jessie Darrington (Loo), Mr. Bert Shenton (the policeman), and Mr. J. C. Wordon (the statue). The music is composed by Mr. A. D. Keate, who also acted as conductor.

For those who, owing to lack of time or other reasons, are unable to experience the delights of Nice in Carnival time, there is a remarkably fine reproduction of the scene in the Urbanora series of pictures at the Alhambra. A fox hunt in the Midlands, which has also been added to the new series, provides ten minutes of exhilarating interest.

A well-deserved compliment was paid to Mr. Latimar, of Newham and Latimar, by Mr. T. E. Pemberton in the *Birmingham Daily Mail* on March 13. Mr. Pemberton remarks: "As the Queen of Hearts, he was the first actor to convince me that a comedian in petticoats could be genuinely funny without being more or less vulgar."

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 17th inst., before Mr. H. M. Winearls, Assistant Official Receiver, in the case of the Ramsgate Marina Pier and Lift Company (Limited), the statutory meeting of creditors and sharcholders under a winding-up order made against the company on Feb. 15 was now held. The chairman reported that it was a shareholders' liquidation, inasmuch as a statement of affairs had been lodged showing liabilities £450, estimated assets £5,121, and a deficiency of £19,633 with regard to the shareholders. The company was registered in March, 1895, with a nominal capital of £30,000, and was formed for the purpose of acquiring from a Mr. James Wilson, the Marina Theatre of Varieties and the Promenade Pier at Ramsgate. The pier was built in or about 1880 for the Ramsgate Promenade Pier Company (Limited), which went into liquidation in 1884, Mr. Wilson subsequently acquiring the property for £3,150.

The present company purchased, inter alia, at the price of £19,500, the pier and the marine refreshment room and restaurant at Ramsgate, known as the Marina Theatre of Varieties. The purchase price was satisfied by the payment of £7,000 in cash, and the balance in shares of the company and a mortgage on its property. The company had never made a profit since the first six months of its formation, the loss incurred last year amounting to £1,170. At the creditors' meeting a resolution was passed for the appointment of Mr. J. W. Scarlett, incorporated accountant, as liquidator. At the meeting of the shareholders, both the Official Receiver and Mr. Scarlett were nominated as liquidators, and the appointment accordingly remains with the Court. A committee of inspection was appointed.

The presence of mind of Miss Sheila McNeil undoubtedly prevented a serious outbreak of fire at the Hippodrome, Accrington, last week. By some mischance an oil-lamp, in course of transit to one of the dressing-rooms, was upset, and in an instant the burning oil was running about at the side of the stage. In the midst of the confusion, Miss Sheila McNeil promptly ran into the dressing-rooms, bringing every basin of water she could find, and threw the contents over the flames with marvellous rapidity. Owing to her plucky efforts the flames were quickly subdued, and the danger of what must have been a serious calamity averted.

It will be interesting to the profession to know that Mr. W. Archer Gardner, some six years with Mr. H. Cecil Beryl's No. 1 *Lady Slavey* Company, and for the past three years connected with the Empire Theatre, Liverpool, has been appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll, as advertising manager of the new Olympia, opening in Liverpool at Easter. He will, therefore, now be in charge of the advertising of both places of amusement.

Lieutenant Chard, the canine trainer, writes:—"I have received many letters of sympathy from managers and other friends in the profession, who are under the impression that I lost all my dogs and properties during the fearful passage from Cork, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., to Liverpool, by s.s. "Ennisfellen." Although I suffered considerable loss owing to the terrible gale, I have happily retained all my animals, and have since renewed all my properties. I very deeply appreciate such kind expressions of sympathy and good will."

At the Kilburn Empire last week Mr. Tom Dunmore produced a new song, written and composed by Augustus Dale (of Dale and O'Malley) and himself, and arranged and orchestrated by W. Snell Robinson, entitled "He's gone, poor fellow!"—Denby and Dent's novel scena, *The Singing Barber*, is not a burlesque shaving act, but the real thing. During the scrape the customer is amused and entertained by the barber's vocal abilities.

Mr. John Lawson will inaugurate at the Grand, Clapham, next week, a new system in the two houses a night of giving a different sketch in each house, and for that purpose will put on his two popular sketches, *Humanity* and *Sally in our Alley*, respectively.

Mr. Fred M'Avoy, manager of the Euston, and Mr. Ernest Cadle, the variety agent, played their game of twenty-five up on a billiard table placed in Miss Ella's den of lions, on Friday evening, the 17th, at the popular hall in the Euston-road. The game lasted about ten minutes, and Mr. Cadle, who made a biggest break of five, won by ten points. The lions were profoundly calm and indifferent to the whole of the proceedings, but the audience applauded lustily when the players emerged quite safe and sound from the cage.

Miss Amy Clevere has received a most complimentary letter from Mr. Ashton, of Ashton's Royal Agency, thanking her for singing her pretty new song, "My Paleface Queen," on Thursday in last week, at the Eccentric Club dinner, at which function he filled the post of chairman. The ditty, which is by J. P. Harrington and George Le Brunn, will shortly be heard at the Palace Theatre. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have it in the press.

Mr. Joseph Wilson, the recently-appointed manager at the Tivoli, was at home to his many friends on Tuesday evening, and several directors and managers of other music halls swelled the distinguished crowd in the hall. Mr. Wilson's managerial experience, which has been gained principally in the theatres and concert halls, goes back for something like twenty years, during which period he has been connected with concerts at St. James's Hall, Queen's Hall, and latterly, since his return from Australia and New Zealand, where he had been on tour with a comedy company, he has been manager for Mr. Frank Curzon. To theatre-goers Mr. Wilson will be chiefly remembered for his delightful impersonation of the sailor man in *The French Maid*. In his new duties he has the valuable co-operation of Mr. James Howell.

The directors of the Empire have for some time had under consideration a change in the character of their entertainment. Operetta, or a music hall adaptation of musical comedy, in which dancing will play a considerable part, was at the last meeting suggested as an alternative to the succession of dumb shows that now prevails. It would have the additional recommendation of utilising the services of the present corps de ballet, and a new spectacle upon these lines is already under consideration, although the exact nature of the production is, of course, not yet decided. The first production under the new arrangement may be expected in June.

La Petite Bella, who has been known for several years as "the Yankee millionaire's daughter," will be known in future as Miss Bella Skeno. She has taken her mother's maiden name, and the name of the street in Macduff, N.B., where she was born, and on which her brother-in-law, Dr. Walford Bodie, has most of his property, known as Bodie's Buildings. Miss Bella on Monday next will produce for the first time on any stage a new scena, entitled *The Braes o' Mar; or the Clans of Scotland*. The Highland Chieftain's costume she will wear (including the jewelled dirk, sword, brooches, &c.), is valued at over £250. She will be assisted by a troupe of lady dancers and pipers.

Lavishly staged and assiduously rehearsed, the Arden and Abel revival of Jenny Hill's (and Fred Bowyer's) great nautical sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, at the Canterbury on Monday next should be quite one of the most finished and complete productions that the variety stage has ever seen. Miss Nellie Bowman will enact the little hero, Mr. William Clayton the stern but relenting captain of the Carisbrooke, Mr. Scott the boatswain, and Master Hugh Wakefield (a budding genius from the Garrick) a pert Etonian, who is disposed (in the words of Mr. Edwards-Moss) to look down upon college as an eleemosynary establishment. Several new musical numbers have been introduced, and the most minute details have received that careful attention which makes for a genuine artistic triumph.

La Guerrero, the Spanish dancer and pantomimist, will appear at the Palace Theatre on Monday in a pantomime sketch, entitled *The Nightmare*, in which she will have ample opportunity to display her really wonderful dancing and acting. Young and beautiful, the famous artiste won many admirers in this country by her performance at the Alhambra as Carmen. She speaks English fairly well. During her engagement at the Palace La Guerrero will appear in three pantomime sketches.

La Guerrero is a native of Andalusia, and a woman of great personal charm and magnetism, with dark eyes, black tresses, and exquisite figure. Having won no more than local distinction in her own country, she was given a trial performance in Paris at the Nouveau Cirque one night in 1900. She was forthwith engaged by Monsieur Marchant for the Folies Bergères, where she appeared in her favourite part of Carmen in a one-act version of the play; and it is as Carmen that she has fascinated almost the whole of the civilised world.

We regret to hear that Mr. Harry Bendon (of the Bendons), lately the lessee of the Macclesfield Hippodrome, now lies in the Macclesfield Infirmary with rheumatic fever. The illness has crippled his slender resources; and his wife (who is about to become a mother) and two children are entirely dependent on charity. Temporary help is therefore necessary until Bendon is able to work.

Mr. Harry Ford has accepted a song called "What was it to do with them what I did?" by Maurice Scott, whose songs, "Now they've got into the London way" and "A Nice Quiet Day," will be remembered.

"America's Lads in Blue" were warmly welcomed on Monday by a large audience at the London Hippodrome in a military spectacle, which is under the joint stage direction of Mr. Leo Kronau and Mr. Frank Parker. The stage setting is the ramparts of a fort, situated on the banks of a river in Indiana, and the action is designed to illustrate the daily life, work, and habits of the American soldier. Forty well-built youths are put through their drill and evolutions, which they execute with machine-like accuracy. They are members of a military regiment in the State of Indiana, instructed in every detail of artillery, infantry, and coast defence practice. The picture is as engaging as it is impressive. Day turns to night, and some very charming atmospheric changes are effected, the "constant" moon irradiating a distant mountain scape.

Presently the bugle call rings out clearly, an enemy's warship is seen in the distance, and lighthouse signals warn the fort. The boys in blue rush to their guns, and naval warfare is represented by a terrific bombardment, to which the defenders, nothing loth, offer a spirited reply. The walls of the fortifications are scaled, and, finally, the attackers are blown out of the water by Yankee torpedoes, and a Red Cross nurse, who has scaled a twenty-foot wall almost as nimbly as the men, waves the "Stars and Stripes" in triumph. There is also a tableau, in which Britannia and Columbia are represented hand-in-hand. The novelty is bound to be popular, inasmuch as it is full of picturesque and sensational effects.

Miss Ida Rene has recovered from her indisposition, and will reappear on Monday at the London Pavilion, where she is such an immense favourite. Mr. Glenister is also adding to the attractions of his programme by several novel turns.

Miss Yolande Noble, who, we are pleased to say, has entirely recovered from her recent serious illness, will restart on Monday at the Tivoli, Manchester, where she will introduce some new songs.

Mlle. Genee, the Empire dancer, who has discovered one of the disadvantages of being popular by learning that she has a fraudulent "double," is a Dane, but speaks English with only the shadow of an accent. She comes from Copenhagen, Queen Alexandra's first home, and her Majesty admires her dancing as much as anyone, and was very pleased when the Duke of Devonshire asked her down to perform at Chatsworth at Christmas-time.

Mr. Eugene Stratton, in the columns of a contemporary, criticises the girl who goes on the stage armed with a coon song. She either has one of her own, or, more likely, she adapts someone else's, and to eke out the lines she tries a step dance, of the cake walk or some other variety. Thus equipped she considers herself fitted for stage life, but, as Mr. Stratton points out, what is now needed to secure a hold upon the public is intelligent acting, and how many coon singers, he inquired pertinently, have the least idea of what nigger life in America is like?

Miss Marie Kendall and her husband, Mr. McCarthy, have been subject to considerable annoyance in connection with the disappearance of her cousin, Miss Florrie Kendall, who, at the Worship-street Police-court, on Saturday, stated that she was of age, and did not intend to return home. Leaflets had been distributed, and suggestions had even been made that Florrie had been murdered. Mr. Corser, the police-magistrate, stated that if the authorship of the leaflets could be traced, there might be an action for libel.

Mr. R. G. Knowles, back from a holiday in his native America, will appear at the Oxford and Tivoli on Monday next. Other favourites who return to the first-mentioned house on the same date are Mr. George Lashwood, Mr. Tom Dunville, Mr. Mike Whallen, Tom Foy and company, and the Glenroys.

Miss Daisy Dormer, after finishing as principal girl at the Princess's, Glasgow, travelled to Leeds, which is 203 miles, and, with only the interval of a single day in between, opened as principal girl in *Goody Two Shoes* at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, where a hearty welcome was awaiting her. Miss Dormer has been specially engaged by Messrs Howard and Wyndham for the part of principal girl in their next pantomime production, but whether at Glasgow, Edinburgh, or Newcastle has not yet been determined. She opens in London shortly at the Palace Theatre, the Tivoli, Oxford, Lyceum, and all the principal halls, and is well stocked with songs by some of our best authors and composers.

Joe Carroll, the best known catch-as-catch-can wrestler, has twice met Myaki, the Japanese wrestler, and has upon each occasion won money by lasting longer than the stipulated time against the able Oriental. Joe again endeavoured to win twenty pounds by staying over ten minutes, the Ju-Jitsu style being insisted upon. The Lancastrian for several minutes evaded some of the most dangerous locks of the Jap in capital style; but the latter is much the stronger of the two, and the British wrestler was defeated with the usual arm and leg hold in 7min. 15sec. He thus carned only £2, but expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the result.

The Mysterious Man in Red, who has been starring in the provinces with his original sensational transformations, has returned to London, and will shortly open at a West End hall with a bewildering act. Neither time nor expense has been spared in the production of this unique creation, dresses, music, and properties being of the most elaborate description.

At Westminster County Court on Wednesday Miss Marie Kendall was sued by Mr. George Foster, music hall agent, for commission with respect to re-engagements. Mr. Foster claimed that as the defendant had been re-engaged at certain halls at increased salaries, plaintiff was entitled to 10 per cent. commission on the re-engagements. Miss Marie Kendall said the plaintiff acted as her agent some years ago, but since then she had changed to Mr. Harry Day, and in consequence her salaries had undergone a considerable increase. The point was raised by counsel for the defence that there could be no claim except on the original salary, and his Honour Judge Woodfall adjourned the case for evidence on that point.

Mr. J. W. Hall writes:—"There are a lot of professionals by the name of Hall, and still they come; therefore the proprietors and the public think they had better give Hall a rest. I had a postcard sent by a landlady only last week, from a well-known town, offering the usual apartments through seeing my name on the bill. I did not hold a contract for that Music Hall, but on the bill sent was "W. H. Hall," certainly not very different to "J. W. Hall." I am running a few combinations this summer, and am looking forward to letters from Henri Randall, W. E. Dunville, Jack Costello, Albert Lennard, and others. With Pierrots confiscating your songs and patter; aliens coming for a week's holiday, and stopping for ever; and the gentlemen who don't want to work for a name, I may suggest to my old friend, Frank St. Clair, that his next song shall be "Good-natured England."

There will be a matinée at the London Pavilion on May 8 in aid of a special fund for an endowment cot to be placed in the Belgrave Hospital for Children, Clapham-road, in memory of the late Mr. Dan Leno. The cost of the cot will be about £1,000. Mr. Leno was a vice-president of the hospital, and greatly interested himself in its welfare.

The first list of the patrons of the matinée includes the names of the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duchess of Portland, Katherine Duchess of Westminster, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, the Marchioness of Salisbury, the Countess of Shaftesbury, Countess Beauchamp, the Countess of Lonsdale, Julia Countess of Shannon, Cora Countess of Strafford, Lady William Lennox, the Countess of Warwick, Dora Countess of Chesterfield, the Countess of Bradford, Viscount and Lady Mary Crichton, General Lord William Seymour, Lord Windsor, the Hon. Derek Keppel and the Hon. Mrs. Derek Keppel, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Sir William and the Hon. Lady Carington, Sir Robert Mowbray, M.P., Lord Justice and Lady Romer, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, M.P., Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arthur and Lady Bigge, Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Henry Irving, Sir Alfred and Lady Agnes Cooper, Sir Thomas Dewar, Mr. Charles Gover, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Ilford Ibbetson, Mr. Alfred Rothschild, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and Mr. Lewis Waller. Mr. Hugh Astley is the hon. treasurer, and Mr. Frank Glenister the hon. manager. All communications should be addressed to the hon. secretary, Mr. F. Fowler-Smith, Sandhurst-lodge, Gresham-road, Brixton, who will gratefully receive and gladly acknowledge donations.

Mr. Harry Scott (son of Mr. George Scott, the popular manager of the Alhambra) has been specially engaged to support Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. George Abel in their forthcoming production of *Three of a Kind* at the Tivoli on Monday, April 3.

Papa Brown, who takes a great interest in the Music Hall Home, has just sent the old people a second parcel of clothing. He hopes that brother professionals will follow his lead, as the comfort of the inmates may be sensibly increased by the replenishment of their all too scanty wardrobes.

The Pope has received Señorita Tortajada, the famous Spanish dancer, who was so greatly impressed with his saintly aspect, that she begged a benediction for her family. The Pope replied, "I have a benediction for all," and gave her his blessing—thus setting a fine example to the ministry of Churches less ancient than that of Rome.

Mr. Bostock's wonderful monkey, Consul II., as he has been called, will be in England soon. He has been cared for all the winter in the South of France, receiving the attention accorded to multi-millionaires. His owner was at first unwilling to transport the animal into our uncongenial climate. He wished to insure his life, but found the insurance companies disinclined to accept the risk. Eventually their disinclination was overcome, and Consul II. will be insured for £50,000, or £28,000 more than the insurance on Consul I. The premium is to be 20 per cent. The condition is that Consul II. is not to appear in England in the months of November, December, January, February, and March. During the other seven months Lloyd's does not consider our insular atmosphere fatal.

The appearance of Madeleine, described as a "dream dancer," was announced to take place in a theatre in Vienna. But the dancer was prevented from appearing. A Court decree prevented the performance, the explanation being that public hypnotic performances could not be allowed.

"The Australian Eleven" is the title of a concert party that, under the auspices of Mr. W. S. Millar, has played at Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, and was the first Pierrot company entertaining at the large theatres in those places. Mr. Millar will start a tour of the South Coast at Easter. The costume worn will be that of the Australian cricketers.

Mr. Edward Ranier, who has been so prolific in sketch productions lately, will add yet another one to the list by producing on Monday, at the Royal Albert, a sensational episode of modern life, entitled *The Blinding Light*, which will be presented in three scenes, and with a strong cast of seven principals.

Dunning and Kahn and Kahn, after a successful run in the country, return to the Euston and Canterbury, on Monday. They stay in town five months, and then play on the Moss and Stoll tours.

Miss Dolly Sirrell, after a successful pantomime engagement, gave a trial show at the Battersea Empire, on Wednesday. So successful was she in her "Lucinda" song, that Mr. Barry, the manager promptly booked her for a week in April.

Mr. Charles Windermere is by way of producing at the Palace, Greenwich, his new comedy duologue, now called *A Bit of Luck*. It will be played by himself and Miss Clare Manifield.

In consequence of the success of "Tommy's Christmas Pudding," by John P. Harrington and Medley Barrett, for which over a dozen singers have already been found, including Will Edwards, Wilfrid Stacy, and the composer, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have acquired the same for early publication in music form.

Mr. Walter Passmore introduced into *The Talk of the Town* at the Lyric a few nights since a humorous song, entitled "The night I went to sleep inside the Zoo." It is by J. Airlie-Dix.

Sanford and Lyons, who are this week playing at the Tivoli, where they were specially engaged, have been re-engaged to appear there in seven weeks' time, for one month.—Haig and Novel open at the Palace, on April 3, for one month. They are at the Hippodrome, Manchester, this week.—Mr. Leo. Fritz, of Mr. Harry Burns's agency, is off to America in two weeks' time.—Mr. Arthur Elvy, vocal comedian, concludes a successful London season to-night, and commences on Monday a short provincial tour at Liverpool.

The Dunedins have just arrived from South America, and are now performing with their customary success at the Cirque Medrano, Paris. Parisians highly appreciate their graceful and artistic performance on unicycles, bicycles, tandems, and their cycling on the telephone wire. They have been highly complimented by Robbins, the noted wheelman. Mr. Jas. E. Donegan is the teacher and trainer of the troupe.

In the Court of King's Bench, on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Wills and a special jury, was the case of Bisera v. Barrasford, which was an action brought by Mr. Philip Bisera, a music-hall artiste, against Mr. Thomas Barrasford to recover damages for an alleged breach of contract. The plaintiff was called, and said his troupe had appeared with great success at Drury Lane and in the provinces. The troupe that appeared at Mr. Barrasford's hall, the Alhambra, in Paris, was identically the same. In cross-examination the witness admitted that the defendant complained to him that the troupe was not the same that he saw in England. The defendant was called, and stated that many of the audience that saw the performance at the Paris Alhambra showed their disapproval of it by making a noise and shouting. The young lady that played the cornet at Brighton played it very well, but the one that did so at the Alhambra had not enough wind left to blow out a candle. His lordship said the question for the jury was whether the troupe that appeared at the Paris Alhambra was the one that the defendant really contracted for. The jury found that it was, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff for £140 damages, the amount claimed.

Owing to the energy of the Ladies' Committee of the grand matinée, which is to take place at the Chelsea Palace on Tuesday next, March 28, in aid of "Our Dumb Friends' League" Horse Ambulance Fund, the whole of the stalls and all the boxes have been sold out, two boxes having been sold for the highest offer of twenty guineas each. To meet the increased demand for tickets, additional stalls and reserved seats have been added. As well as a large number of ladies who are personally assisting at the matinée by selling programmes, others are bringing their dogs to collect on behalf of the fund, and amongst these are Miss Helen Ferrers, with "Lord Quex," Miss Ruby Ray, with "Yo San," Miss Camille Clifford, with "Babbie," Miss Florence Lloyd, with "Master Rex," Mrs. Sam Sothern, with "Mistress Glory," and Miss Violet Darrell, with Mrs. Greenway's "Zita." An additional attraction also will be Mr. Lupino, who will collect in his character of Nana from *Peter Pan*. In addition to the numerous artistes who have generously promised their assistance is Miss Maud Darrell, from the Lyric Theatre.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The management here, recognising the public appreciation of the unconventional in terpsichorean art, has engaged Señorita Carmen de Faya, announced as the beautiful and accomplished Spanish danseuse, who has been winning many Continental triumphs. The Alhambra frequenters have memories of celebrated Spanish dancers, among them Otero and La Tortajada. If not rivalling either the beauty or talent of these celebrities, the new-comer nevertheless is a performer of considerable attractiveness, and her habanèra and cachuca have the alluring attractiveness and sensuous grace that betray the gifted dancer. There is, too, an Oriental languor occasionally that peculiarly befits the Mauresque origin of the dances. The Señorita does not attempt any great *tour de force* in her various pas, but is quite classical in the execution of the measures characteristic of her race. She is accompanied by Señor Aragon, whose avoirdupois prevents him adding either beauty or distinction to the turn. On Monday Carmen de Faya was very heartily received, and an immense basket of roses was handed to her at the conclusion of her *soli*, which met with general approval.

Since the production of *My Lady Nicotine*, the dancing of La Sylphe has become quite a feature of the entertainment. It is daringly original and full of surprises. La Sylphe makes her first entrance in the second scene of the ballet—the interior of a Turkish harem, where, as a favourite houri, she dances before a sultan a *pas de fascination* that is full of lissome activity, and remarkable posturing. We have never seen anything quite like La Sylphe's dancing. It is characterised by perfect ease, and the slight girlish figure is as supple as indiarubber. The *petite drame*, of which La Sylphe and Miss Edith Slack are the chief figures, is distinguished by the powerful and eloquent gesture play of the latter lady, who, as a mime, shows a strength and restraint that are wholly admirable.

The restless enterprise of Mr. Charles Urban, who has given us so many delightful experiences by his world pictures, is responsible for some wonderful films of the Nice Carnival procession. The joyous crowds of maskers and revellers in every conceivable guise, the ingeniously-designed cars—one of them a huge pleiosaurus, with some carnival folk comfortably ensconced in its gigantic maw—the love of the grotesque, the genuine spirit of mirth, and the absence of horse-play are recognisable in every procession. We were about to say that Mr. Urban has secured no greater triumph in the result of animated photography than the Nice Carnival, but very natural hesitation arises about expressing such a verdict when we are plunged immediately into the excitement of a fox hunt in the Midlands, and assist at a run with the beauties from the "gone away" until the kill. The pace is a cracker, though the country is fairly easy, and we are fairly carried away by the spirit of the whole scene, accompanied throughout in admirable style by Mr. Byng's orchestra, which plays a series of the best hunting tunes, including the famous "John Peel." The "Urbanora" views conclude with a comic picture of an ancient belle, who with advancing years has not lost the art of coquetry, and expresses much with the language of the fan.

The Tschin-Maa Troupe of Chunchuses are in the last week of a most successful engagement. The perfection of their juggling reaches its highest point in the basin spinning of the youngster, who uses a couple of bamboo rods. The somersaults from a pyramid of tables derives some novelty in its performance from the fact that the stalwart Chunchu who accomplishes it is burdened by much crockery ware, which he carries quite securely during his topsy-turveydom. Throughout, the performance is most interesting. Early in the evening the Pandurs are responsible for a balancing act, which includes a wonderful feat with ladders. Fun is allied to skill in the doings of Les Kiners-Moulin, one of the pair being a most fascinating brunette, who, seated in a chair, is lifted by her partner, and balanced on his chin. An even more difficult feat than this is the holding aloft by precisely the same means, of a bicycle, which the lady pedals. Monsieur takes off his shirt *coram populo*, and shies it at Madame, who evidently thinks the proceeding quite *choquant*. It is not more startling, perhaps, than Miss Kitty Traney's very neat method of doffing an elaborately-trimmed pink silk skirt, with which she juggles for a moment. It must be confessed that Kitty looks very well without skirts. She does a risley act with a clever terrier, and a diminutive canine is cleverly balanced in a specially made receptacle on a pyramid of champagne bottles. The distinctive feature of Miss Traney's act is her driving of a well-trained cob harnessed to a buggy, the animal's forelegs being ornamented by hoops, through which two dogs leap alternately. The *Entente Cordiale* still retains its place in the bill, which is concluded by Les Torelas, eccentric dancers.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, the managing director of this hall, is in sympathy with local charitable effort, and the recent entertainment given under his auspices for the benefit of the North-Western Hospital proved to be one of the most successful that has ever been given at any hall for a similar purpose. It is by such disinterested actions as these that Mr. Lucas, as it were, establishes a kinship with his audiences, who assemble twice nightly at the historic establishment in High-street, Camden Town, to enjoy an entertainment that is always easily "understanded of the people." No entertainment at the Bedford is considered complete without a sketch, and a particularly good specimen of tabloid drama is to be found in *Right's Right*, by Messrs. C. A. Clarke and Hazlehurst.

It is in a way the story of "two orphans," though it has not the slightest resemblance in plot to the famous piece of that name that Henry Neville so successfully produced at the old Olympic some thirty years ago. There is an out-and-out villain in *Right's Right*, who employs a comic scoundrel in fustian to "mislay" two sisters. One of them he leaves on London Bridge, and the other he adopts and brings up. Cherry, the more fortunate, is found by a good-hearted Yorkshire farmer, who, when the story opens, dotes on his bonnie seventeen-year-old lass. Venus, the other sister makes up in buoyancy of temperament what she lacks in worldly position. She is invincibly cheerful, and becomes a perfect terror to the mean-spirited creature who has dragged her up in poverty, squalor, and vice. The girl, uncouth, even brutal, as she is, is but a diamond in the rough, and when she finds herself alone with her newly-found sister Cherry, who has been kidnapped for the second time to suit the purposes of the chief villain, she shows true grit. Needless to say, the girls come by their own, and the aristocratic scoundrel gets his deserts. Mr. Adderley Howard makes an interesting figure of the Yorkshire farmer, and Miss Dolly Elsworthy is quite successful in the part of Venus, the audience laughing very heartily at the extravagance of her vagaries.

As a genuine contrast to the seriousness of *Right's Right*, we have the screaming farce, *Black and White*, which is played by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Melford and company. Mr. Melford plays the part of an engaged lover, who, on learning that his cousin, the heiress to a fortune of £70,000, is coming to England to marry him, immediately throws over his girl for the sake of the cash. His disappointment is quite comic when he discovers the new arrival to be a mulatto. Even the large amount of her fortune cannot persuade him to take her for better or worse, and as the curtain falls, he is left lonely and with the disconsolate prospect of bachelordom still oppressing him. In the variety portion of the programme we have the special engagement of Jerry and Joey, one of them a trained pony, whose bucking propensities make him unrideable. Invitations from the stage result in a number of adventurous youths attempting to keep their seats on the pony's bare back. On the night of our visit, the pony threw every one of his riders; but one youth, whose attempt was more successful than the rest, was picked out for a final competition announced for yesterday evening. Much laughter was evoked by the efforts of the amateur jockeys. Mr. Fred Dice, comedian, obtains generous applause for his number, "I'm just beginning to sprout," his success, however, being greater in his parody of the song and dance man. Miss Amy Allnutt sings "I don't want to part, Bill"; and Mdlle. Du Roche is heard to advantage in Denza's pretty "Spring" song. A turn of considerable excellence is that contributed by the Moxon family of equilibrists, who are as versatile as they are smart; Stanley and Tichbourne are fortunate in the selection of their duets; Miss Marie Reeves is a dainty dancer; and the Sisters Leoni, duettists, and Avon and Crest are also announced on the bill, which is ably supervised by Mr. A. F. Lovesy, the manager.

THE CANTERBURY.

The power of the programme at the Canterbury lies this week to a large extent in Mr. George Gray, who, with his sketch, *The Road to Ruin*, is moving the vast auditorium en masse. Never was more excitement contained in a melodramatic morsel, and seldom have scenes of strenuous life been presented with such truth as in this realisation of Frith's celebrated pictures, in which Mr. Gray impersonates with startling force the University student who constitutes the chief character. The reckless gambler, faced with ruin, the desperate racing man who bribes the jockey the hold "the favourite" back, and the degraded toper, who, in a fit of temper, kills his faithful wife with a blow of the pewter pot—all are deeply tinged with dramatic skill, and after the prematurely aged and broken man escapes from the vengeance of his wife's brother, only to fall into the hands of an infuriated mob, it comes as a relief to find that the awful scenes were but a dream, and that the young collegian, under the influence of his grey-haired mother, is about to begin anew. Mr. Gray holds his audience under the spell of his talent throughout, and the cheers which continually ring in his ears are nobly earned. Mr. Gray's associates give excellent support, and the scenery illustrating the piece is vividly realistic, effective use being made of the opportunities presented by the racecourse. Strength is given to the bill by the performance of Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, whose welcome at the Canterbury is ever spontaneous and hearty. He makes comic capital at every opportunity, and his quaint quips are unfailing and productive of merriment in all parts of the house. He raises his tuneful voice in praise of "The girl upstairs," the drollery of which gives place to the pathos of "My fiddle is my sweetheart," which is received with enthusiastic approval. Nor is he allowed to depart without "The Blind Boy," in which the richness of his falsetto is once more displayed, while an undeniable recall brings back the favourite "White-eyed Kaffir" to give a hornpipe with the claypipe, the oddity of which is duly recognised. Mr. Harry Ford adds to the gaiety of the evening with his rendering of "It's a shame!" and "That's enough"—simple phrases both, but made expressive by the inimitable drollery of the singer. The Zaros do a number of astonishing top-mounting and tumbling feats. A series of rapid handsprings, with three intervening somersaults, are performed by one coy maiden, who is greatly applauded, and the buxom lady of the troupe, besides taking an encouraging share in the feats of her companions, bears many burdens with uncommon case. The xylophone becomes a very tuneful instrume.t in the hands of Baker and Balfe, who give an elaborate operatic excerpt with equal facility to that of a selection of Irish airs, and though their playing grows fast and furious up to racing point, there is never any forfeiture of time or tune. The Brothers Griffiths have a motor-car to play with, and very amusing do their revels become. After a mock duel with pistols they engage in a burlesque wrestling bout, the "points" of which are many and various, and set everyone in throes of laughter. A comic pantomime, in which an artist, a yokel, and a dairymaid figure, is presented by the Lyons Trio, who finish up a mirth-provoking knockabout display with a curious dance, in which the eccentric movements of the trio prove greatly amusing. Miss Maude Mortimer has a new scena, entitled *His First Offence*, which employs her rare talent to perfection. Mr. Fred Russell's Coster Joe is a credit to his ventriloquial creator; Mr. Rex Fox does a daring wire act; and Clive and Clark, black and white comedy artistes, Miss Rachel Lowe, Miss Childie Stuart, Miss Bessie Featherstone, and Massona are also features of the bill, which Mr. Fred Miller directs with his accustomed geniality.

SOUTH LONDON.

Even with increasing opposition, the popularity of the "good old South" is still on the upward grade. Ever since Mr. Frank Weeks has had charge of affairs in London-road the fortunes of the hall have caused not one moment's anxiety to the directors, and one has only to take a short stroll round the neighbourhood to find out that it is the favourite place of amusement in South London. Southwarkites regard it with as much affection—if not more—as if it were a club, and so far as the arrangement of meetings of friends is concerned, it is much more than a club. This week the Four Leggetts, in their comedy sketch, *The Maid of Athens*, are creating an agreeable diversion. A gentleman purchases a statue of a woman, and has it taken to his house. Judge of his consternation when, after a tiff with his wife, the statue is found to possess life and breath. In fact, it is a very lively statue. To its owner it makes passionate appeals of love, and he, poor man, is at his wit's end lest his wife shall discover him in what may seem to be a compromising attitude with his strange visitant. How shall he explain the presence of the woman? He hits upon an idea. She can apply for a position as cook. "The Maid of Athens" carries out the idea, and some laughable situations ensue. However, all ends well. The little piece is most cleverly presented by the two ladies and two gentlemen who form the Leggett company. A comical couple are the Danbys, whose "Tired Tim and Weary Willie" nonsense is highly entertaining. Their patter is about as diverting and as diversified in subject as the costumes of many colours and many patches which these comedians wear. They both understand, too, the art of "making-up" to appear ridiculous, and it is not too much to say that their efforts all round are highly appreciated. Mr. R. W. Bentley appears on the stage dressed up as a messenger boy, and he has some funny tales to tell in respect of the different errands upon which he is sent, and in respect of the people who send him. Mr. Bentley certainly contrives to show the farcical side of a messenger's life. In place of Miss Amber Austa, the American comedienne and dancer, who has been unable to turn up this week, an excellent deputy is found in Vasey and Ramsay, who call forth admiration by their smart clog-dancing exhibition and their interesting business in other directions. The Glenroy Troupe can always secure a welcome wherever they go, and they have not lacked one at the South London. They are athletic, well-set up girls, who dance and execute military drills in a manner that causes the gentlemen in red, who have just begun to make themselves comfortable lounging in a stall seat, to smarten up wonderfully, and look on with keen appreciation, especially while the lance exercises are being demonstrated. The Twelve Aerial Wrestling Girls take part in a novel and exciting wrestling bout in mid-air. Each member of the troupe clings to a swing pole, and tries to force an opponent to release her grip, and come to the ground. All the young ladies work hard, and by their appearance we should imagine that these contests help towards the formation of muscle and the endowment of greater strength. Mr. Ben Albert sings in humorous style "I'm not the sort of fellow you thought me," and by the time he has got to the end of the ditty the folk in the auditorium have come to the conclusion that he is a very jolly, quaint sort of fellow. A second song he sings is also well received. The Brothers Redmond, the acrobatic comedians, would cause a veritable Knight of the Rueful Countenance to smile. Extremely laughable is their act, in which gymnastic skill is combined with sport of the most diverting order. Mr. Tom Maxwell and Miss Virginia Frances submit some delightful comedy business in their "flirtation" sketch, and they prove to be vocalists of no mean ability. Miss Dora Lyric, the charming and talented burlesque actress, and Miss Minnie Moran, the chic comedienne and dancer, add their quota towards the enjoyment of the audience.

ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS.

BEST PROGRAMME EVER IN ROCHDALE.
IMPOSSIBLE TO DESCRIBE.
THE EMPIRE HALL, ROCHDALE.

This week's programme will undoubtedly rank amongst the best—perhaps "the" best—which the Messrs. Hargreaves have yet submitted to their patrons. The seven Savonas are indeed "musical marvels." Irrespective of their individual and collective abilities, they put on the stage a "setting" which is in itself a marvel of stagecraft; indeed, did the Empire stage admit of more, it would have been even more wonderful in scenic effect. The scene is a veritable fairyland of variegated electrical lights—a vision of splendour which has certainly never before been seen on a Rochdale stage. When to all this is added a truly brilliant répertoire of novel music, with truly novel instruments, including gigantic pneumatic organs, the grand effect may be faintly conceived by those who have not actually seen and heard this beautiful "turn." The storm scene is a wonderfully realistic production—full of effects which it is almost impossible to describe. And again the grand show is not devoid of humour. Indeed, the conclusion fairly bristles with merry and witty comedy. In every respect the show ought to be witnessed to be appreciated fully.—*Rochdale Times*, Wednesday, March 15, 1905.

PACKED HOUSES.
THE ELLIOTTS AND THE SAVONAS IN ROCHDALE.

This week an excellent entertainment is being provided at the Empire Hall, Town Hall-square, where the Seven Savonas are appearing. They are truly described as musical marvels; as exponents of what might be termed light classical music they are probably the most attractive performers who have yet visited the town. Their cleverness with various musical instruments is well known, and the Empire Hall was packed at each "house" on Monday night. A treat had been anticipated, and, judging by the very hearty applause which greeted all the efforts of the troupe, their patrons were not disappointed. The stage is elaborately fitted up for the Savonas' "turn," and with an abundance of coloured electric lights it presents a pretty scene. The entertainment is refined, and much quiet humour is introduced into it. The Savonas give selections from the greatest composers, including the overture from the opera of *William Tell*—the storm scene. Last night the six cycling Elliotts, "wonders of the present century," introduced some remarkably clever feats.—The *Rochdale Observer*, Wednesday, March 15, 1905.

THE NEW HIPPODROME AT IPSWICH.

Situated in St. Nicholas-street, about the centre of the town, is nearing completion, and will open on March 27. The sole proprietor and lessee is Mr. E. H. Bostock, of Norwich. The building has been erected from the designs of Mr. Frank Matcham, and carried out by Messrs. T. Parkington, of Ipswich. The seating capacity is estimated at about 1,500, comprising stall, circle, pit, and gallery. The stage is constructed on a large scale, and is capable of being utilised for equestrian performances. Accommodation for artistes is ample, and conveniently placed. The scenery, &c., is painted by Mr. Francis Bull, and the decorations throughout are the work of Messrs. De Jong and Co., of London. The tableau curtain and the whole of the draperies are of a rich copper-coloured plush, as are also the "tip-up" chairs in the stalls, supplied by the well-known firm of Messrs. A. R. Dean and Son, Birmingham, who have introduced their admirable tip-up seat. The new building will be fitted with both gas and electric light.

MR. W. F. FRAME, whose name is as well known as the Highland kilt, starts on his North tour on Monday at Arbroath with his own company.

MR. GUS GAERICK is doing well in the provinces with his new act, *Music Hall Tit-Bits*. On Monday, at the Hippodrome, Wigan, he is running his own company, and producing his original invention and patent, the Living Postcard Album.

AT the Alhambra, Stourbridge, this week we have a special attraction in Mr. Charles Prinz and his troupe of lions. His performance is a thrilling one. In addition there is a strong array of attractions, which include the Elvins, in their mirth provoking comic sketch; Pulo, the boy juggler, with a high-class entertainment; Rex and Ford, patter comedians; Picturesque Poses, a series of living and artistic pictures, and the Bioscope.

THE 398th meeting of the Executive Committee of M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Joe O'Gorman, chairman of the committee, presiding. There were also present Messrs. Harry Freeman, Jack Collinson, W. H. Clemart, George Gray, Frank Gerald, Charles Edgar, Bob Leonard, J. W. Cragg (vice-president), Charles Coborn (vice-president), Will Edgar, Joe Elvin, Michael Nolan, Harry Wright, Charles McConnell, and C. Douglas-Stuart (secretary). Messrs. Cragg and Elvin stated that they regretted they could not accept the position of hon. treasurers pro tem., on account of being away from London so long. The committee therefore decided to write and ask Mr. Edwin Brown if he would accept the position. Mr. Will Lee was elected a member of the committee, and it was decided to send out the names of George Preston and Edgar Granville to the full committee for election as additional members. A requisition signed by fifteen members was received by the committee from Mr. Harry Mountford, who enclosed his cheque for £10, in accordance with Rule 28. The committee decided to reply to Mr. Mountford and inform him that the requisitioners had not specifically and clearly stated how, or in what way, the committee had broken the Rules, as mentioned in the requisition. Mr. McCarthy attended before the committee, and explained the new system of books that he suggested should be kept for the Association, and the committee decided that the same should be purchased. The secretary reported that 58 new members had joined during the past week, making a total number enrolled since the commencement of 11,548.

BODIE AT THE BRITANNIA.

Dr. Walford Bodie and his company are here this week, and the natural result is—packed houses. The Doctor presents nightly his wonderful programme of sensational doings in the direction of electricity and hypnotism and bloodless surgery. He has quite a large collection of what look like ancient instruments of torture. They are the leg irons and other paraphernalia which have been discarded by his fortunate patients, who have found that three minutes with Bodie meant life-long happiness. In his opening speech he tells the audience that he treated 900 people on his last visit to London, "and they walk about to-day," he proudly adds, "as living witnesses of what can be done by this remarkable science." Then one catches a still deeper note of pride as the Doctor says that he only takes in hand cases which have been pronounced hopeless and incurable by different hospital authorities. The well-delivered little speech at an end, we are introduced to a dozen persons whose present state of health and physical activity testify to Dr. Bodie's treatment. One is a girl whose left side and left arm had been paralysed for six years; another is a young woman who was paralysed for fourteen years; another was paralysed for sixteen years. All were discharged from leading hospitals as incurable, and all were made well last Easter after they had been in the Doctor's company for a few minutes. One striking case is that of a woman who had been paralysed for twenty-six years. Last Christmas she was seen by Dr. Bodie at the Empire, Islington, and she has since had cause to bless his coming. Still another patient is a little girl, who had been paralysed for five years, and sent out of three hospitals. Healer Bodie came to her rescue; she is no longer halt and lame, and her mother tells with delight that now, instead of being compelled to go about with disfiguring irons, the child wears 2s. 11½d. boots! A pretty buttonhole of flowers for the Doctor is the affectionate reward of a young woman who was paralysed for twenty-six years, and discharged from three hospitals. She tells how, after the Doctor had operated on her, and had effected a cure, she nearly went "balmy" with delight. "The Doctor is worth his weight in gold," she says, and then she dances off the stage just to show how agrecable a thing life is to her now. A small boy is the next to demonstrate in the Doctor's favour. He causes a laugh by saying that at first he believed Bodie to be a fraud; now he is convinced to the contrary. A pretty, tiny girl, whose age is stated as three, lightly runs from the wings to the middle of the stage. Nothing touches the hearts of an audience so much as the sight of a little, helpless child, and as the story is told of what Dr. Bodie has done in this case, deafening applause comes from every quarter of the house. The case with which Dr. Bodie feels particular gratification is that of a young man, a resident and native of Hull, who has for a period of twenty-one years suffered from paralysis of the optic nerve, which means that he has been for that period practically blind. Dr. Bodie brought his wonderful science to bear with excellent results, and among those who, in addition to the youth himself, can testify to the cure is the Mayor of Hull, who has particularly interested himself in the patient. The young man had for a period of several years attended a blind school at Leeds, and had been given up as incurable by four of the leading oculists. Dr. Bodie tests his powers of sight in front of the audience, and the young fellow answers all his questions satisfactorily. Several fresh patients are now brought on to the stage. William Wills, aged sixteen, whose left leg has been paralysed for fifteen years, is placed in a chair, and the Doctor operates upon him in his usual manner. In order to do good, we are told that it is necessary for 25,000 volts of electricity to be passed through Bodie's body. Anyhow, within four minutes, bad as the case was, the boy is able to walk off the stage, carrying his leg irons. A second boy, suffering from paralysis in both legs, and a withered arm, is put right in one and a half minutes. A third boy, aged eight, paralysed for six years, was most skilfully operated upon by Dr. Bodie, who, by means of his knowledge of bloodless surgery and his great physical strength, broke down the adhesions of long standing in an arm and a leg, and then applied the electrical treatment. The outcome, as with the former patients, was a most happy one, and wild cheers greeted the accomplishment of what seemed to be nothing less than a miracle. The remaining features of an extremely interesting programme include an exhibition of Dr. Bodie's hypnotic powers, there being fifteen subjects, whose antics cause roars of laughter. As to the separate "turns," we have Mr. Norman Mills, the talented Australian vocalist; La Petite Bella, the "Yankee millionaire's daughter"; the Garden Troupe of International Dancers; the Shallers, gymnasts; Les Fontaines' Marionettes; Miss Helen Henri, operatic vocalist; and the animated pictures.

MR. L. C. J. LIVERMORE, director of the Livermore Tour, has changed his address to Fairview, 17 Hillbury-rd, Upper Tooting.

MDLLE. ROZA, with her hippodrome, has quite taken the visitors of the Boscombe Hippodrome by storm this week, her latest item, "The goalkeeper," being a big hit. Although she has had to follow other big animal acts, such as seals and lions, the press and public are quite enthusiastic over her turn.

MISS FLORRY COOPER'S success with the song, "Which is my mother's star?" written by those popular collaborators, J. P. Harrington and George Le Brunn, has been so great at the Chelsea Palace and the Metropolitan, that Mr. David Day (of Francis, Day, and Hunter) has secured the favourite number direct.

MR. FRED MILLER, the manager of the Canterbury, has fixed Thursday, May 11, as the date of his complimentary benefit, which will be given by permission of his directors at the Canterbury, where Mr. Miller has won the esteem of both patrons and employers in the onerous post of manager. The special efforts that will be made to secure an attractive list of artistes for the event will result in a programme of carnival proportions.

MR. CHARLES CLIFFORD, the harpist and humorist, returns across the border on Monday next, after a Scotch tour of four months.—Messrs. Burg, Haud, and Wise, after a successful Stoll tour, with their original comedy-act, *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, open on Monday at the Hippodrome, Hastings.—Mr. Percy Ashdown, who has just removed from Liverpool to London, has had his latest composition—a march—accepted by Messrs. J. R. Lafleur and Son for publication.

THE annual dinner and dance of the Terriers and their friends were held on Sunday night and Monday morning at the Horns, Kennington. Quite 150 sat down to an excellent dinner, for which Mr. Jean Kohl was responsible. After an impromptu entertainment, to which Mr. Bob Hutt, the only Griff, Mr. Andy Caine, Mr. Willie Benn, Percival, and Miss Norman contributed, dancing was commenced to the strains of Mr. Leon A. Bassett's Palace orchestra. The stewards, Mr. Walter Norman, Mr. Ernest D'Almaine, Mr. B. Woodger, Mr. Harry Barnard, and Mr. H. Cory Woodrow, exerted themselves bravely, and it was a sight for the gods to see Spot and Miss Rose Hamilton doing the cake walk. Mr. Harry Lester, the secretary, was assiduous in the promotion of the affair, which was a great success.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

We are publishing this week a full list of the subscribers to the Shilling Fund for the Music Hall Home. The result of Mr. Thomas Barrasford's appeal in our columns has realised the grand total of 4,005 shillings, and this sum, which has been contributed by all ranks in the profession, clearly proves that very real and practical sympathy is felt for performers who are infirm and aged. Mr. Thomas Barrasford's kindly interest in this excellent charity is shown in a further handsome contribution of £14 6s. 7d., the share of the balance resulting from the Lifeboat and Professional Matinée at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, on Feb. 23 last. Mr. Barrasford desires to express his hearty thanks to the contributors, to the collectors, to *The Era* for its advocacy, to the secretary, Mr. J. Fruin, and to the hon. treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift; and his special acknowledgements are due to Miss Nellie Wilson, a consistently hard worker for the Fund, who is proud of being the largest collector. Good as the result of the appeal has been, Mr. Barrasford is hopeful of even greater success next year, and we feel sure that, now the

[*Photo by Brooks.*
MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD.

members of the profession see what can be done by united effort, they will redouble their efforts, and enable one of the most practical helpers the Fund has ever had to realise his wish. Any further sums received by collectors will be duly annuonced in "The Era," they should be forwarded direct to the secretary, Mr. J. T. Fruin, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD'S APPEAL.

Total to date, 4005.

	Shillings.
Thomas Barrasford	385
Thomas Barrasford, recent law case	315
M.H.A.R.A.	400
John Hyman	105
Dr. Walford Bodie	100
Lily Burnaud	42
L. C. J. Livermore	42
C. Mannering	31½
Paul Ciuquevalli	21
Gus Elen	21
Caicedo	21
G. Grais	21
Walter Stanton	21
Fred Neimann	20
Syd May	10½
Bros. Webb	10
Florence Schuberth	10
Two Bostons	5
E. Barwick	2½
Rozel	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Ford, 15s.

S.		S.
Harry Bailey	1	H. Alaskas 1
Farley and Rennie	1	H. Comerford 1
Harry Ford	1	H. Ford 1
Mrs. Ford	1	H. Ford 1
Rosie Ford	1	H. Boden 1
Harry Ford	1	W. Walsh 1
Charles Danton	1	W. Shorter 1
Bert Brantford	1	

Collected by "Stave," 11s.

Harry Barnard	2	Wal. Douglas	1
Fred Higham	1	A. T. Selby	1
E. Peter	1	J. Spurn	1
J. Sharpy	1	Henry Clarke	1
A. Kerbey	1	John Benton	1

Collected by Mr. E. Bridgen Granville, £1 10s.

Kittee Bell	1	Sibb and Sibb	1
J. Shingleton	1	W. Van Allen	1
Jack Pleasants	1	Rose Waller	1
Frank Hardie	1	Scott and Pearce	1
Ida Brophy	1	L. Barry	1
W. Benn	1	Beattie Herbert	1
F. Le Bois	1	Tom Leamore	1
Hubert Bartlett	1	The Two Graces	1
Princess Pauline	1	Leslie Reed	1
Harry Grey	1	Charlie Bayman	1
Arthur Verne	1	Condon and Preston	1
Nelson and Thomas	1	Geo. Newburn	1
Blanche Gerald	1	Dora Clements	1
Billy Farrell	1	"Pimple," T. W. A.	1
Mozandos	1	A. Rudd	1

Collected by Mr. Tom Shaw, £1 6s.

Tom Shaw	10	J. M. Breuthell	2
Stelling and Revell	5	W. L. Stephens	2
C. Henderson	2	R. Carr	1
Sinclair and Whiteford	2	Albert Masters	1
		K. L. S.	1

Collected by Mr. W. H. Boardman, 10s.

Wm. H. Boardman	1	D. R. I. N. K.	1
Evans	1	C. Campbell	1
F. W.	1	Wm. H. Boardman	1
S. W. O.	1	Wm. H. Boardman	1
H. O. P.	1	Wm. H. Boardman	1

Collected by Mr. Bernard Stavordale, 5s.

Bernard Stavordale	1	Beatrice Stavordale	1
Amy Denton	1	R. Dagmar	1
Guy Stavordale	1		

Collected by Mr. G. H. Smythson, 5s

Barton and Franklin	2	E. J. Wilkes	1
Mr. Jones (New York Quartette)	1	Geo. H. Smythson	1

Collected by the Bros. Griffiths, £1.

Fred Griffiths	5	C. St. John Medley	1
Fred Griffiths, jun.	3	Marcelle Chevalier	1
Mrs. Griffiths	2½	Marion Adams	1
Miss L. Griffiths	2½	George Buckwood	1
Percy Clifton	1	W. Benson	1
Henry Claft	1		

Collected by Mr. A. Young, £1 3s. 6d.

Mr. A. Young	10	Andie Caine	2½
Mrs. A. Young	10	Mr. G. Hunt	1

Collected by Millie Harris, £1 12s. 0d.

Millie Harris	1	Hettie De Val	1
Eric Graham	1	Bert Osborne	1
H. O. Wills	1	G. Dickenson	1
Heath and Holmes	1	F. Newbold	1
C Bluett	1	L. Burgess	1
Jess Verno	1	Two Brothers	1
Alf. Wallis	1	The Longfellow	1
Geo. Brockbank	1	J. Darlington	1
G. T. Cain	1	C. Lowe	1
F. O'Toole	1	Will Lynam	1
Percy Boucher	1	W.	1
W. R. Redmond	1	The Dainton Girls	1
D. Barnard	1	W. H. Moore	1
F. Sheard	1	O. Morris	1
E M. Whitehead	1	Two Heads	1
G. Anton	1	Two Tails	1

Collected by Eric Graham, 12s.

Harrison Butler	1	William Augustus Bailey	1
William Dyson	1	Gerald Montgomery	1
Mat Montgomery	1	G. Parry	1
Fred Land	1	Old Salt	1
George Jones	1	Slim Jim	1
Herbert Williams	1		
P. Stevenson	1		

Mr Frank Weston, £2 0s. 6d.

Brothers Forrest	3	Permane	1
M. Walton	2½	Hilgert Arkas	1
Nellie Wallace	2½	Tom M'Imray	1
T. Nelson Downes	2	W. G. Pratt	1
Al. Lawrence	2	E. B. Mayor	1
Ed. F. Reynard	2	E. Y. Stevens	1
T. F. Griffiths	2	Frances Letty	1
Densmore	1	Dan Llewllyn	1
Alexander Braatz	1	Warly Marus (Marus Bros.)	1
Raffaelo Trio	1	Emma and Victor	1
Yinlians	1	Slippere	1
F. Finklestein	1	The Four Cliftons	1
S. Okimoto	1	Phil Luck	1
R. Royce	1	Adolph Luck	1
D. Crombie	1	Falcons	0½
E. Leonard	1		
Vock et Var	1		

Collected by Mr T. S. Lonsdale, £3 14s. 6s.

Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright	20	Kit Keen	1
Prof. Wingard	2	The Davenports	1
W. Pratt	2	The Four Jumels	1
Sherrys	2	Walter Payne	1
L. Whybro	2	Lillie North	1
A. Borghetti	2	G. Collius	1
Four Maisenos	2	T. Loader	1
Sisters Selwyn	2	Les Sprays	1
F. J. Barnard (Barnard's Marionettes)	1½	W. Martini	1
T. C. Gannon	1	F. Thorne	1
T. S. Lonsdale	1	Leslie Race	1
Ralston Bros.	1	France Piper	1
Tom Parker	1	The Jagos	1
Howard and Collinson	1	J. W. Ellison	1
Lee and Bentley	1	Sam Dalton	1
Leopolds	1	R. Gilbert	1
Millie Howell	1	E. H. Lucas	1
Sisters Hall	1	Wal Douglas	1
Dora Lyric	1	Carl Mysto	1
Arthur Reece	1	Hamilton Hill	1
Sisters Charnley	1	Alec Huline	1
Hanson	1	Hughes and Elliott	1
E. H. Williams	1	T. W. Rickaby	1
		Calcotts	1
		Will Farrell	1

Collected by Griff, £1 10s.

Griff	1	Mamma Griff	1
Alpha	1	The Young Griffs	1
Hadden Griff	1	The Old Griffs	1
Harry Griff	1	Baby Griffs	1
George Griff	1	Joseph Griff	1
John Griff	1	Crompton Griff	1
Victor Griff	1	Griff-Griff	1
Mrs. Griff	1	The Griff Troupe	1
Annie Griff	1	No. 1 Griff	1
H. H. Griff	1	No. 2 Griff	1
Henry Griff	1	No. 3 Griff	1
Griff senior	1	No. 4 Griff	1
Griff junior	1	No. 5 Griff	1
The Griff Family	1	No. 6 Griff	1
Papa Griff	1	No. 7 Griff	1

Collected by Mr. J. H. Stringer, £1 13s.

J. H. S.	1	M. Patarch	1
Lucks	6	H. O. Dixon	1
L. B. Brettell	1	W. H. Boyes	1
Mabel Thorne	1	F. E. Boyes	1
Ray Hartley	1	P. Greenhalter	1
Hilda Dugdale	1	F. Hewitt	1
Mabel Danby	1	H. R. Tidswell	1
Vesta Davies	1	C. A. Boothroyd	1
J. Crichton	1	A. E. Needham	1
Walter Scott	1	H. Wasse	1
Herbert Rule	1	G. Michaline	1
Ernie Bee	1	H. A. Moore	1
Charlie Dillon	1	Will Cornish	1
P. Patarch	1	Frank Boissett	1

Collected by Mr. Will Johnson, £2.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Warmsley	2	Montague Body	1
New York Comedy 4	2	W. Jarnold, jun.	1
Mr. and Mrs. Burgess	2	Dorie Wynne	1
Hart and Leo	2	Eva Perrett	1
Will Johnson	1	Julie Lascelles	1
Daisy Martell	1	Amy Goodworth	1
Ben Albert	1	Mrs. Bennett	1
Leonard White	1	Mr. H. G. Bennett	1
W. G. Hurst	1	Dan Crawley	1
Lily Shaw	1	Lilian Bishop	1
Condor and Preston	1	G. F. Messer	1
Ruby Verdi	1	Fred Gould	1
Alf Hales	1	Bert Johnson	1
R. Kloss	1	Ted Johnson	1
Gwennie Harcourt	1	Jas. Burnett	1
Stanley Wigg	1	S. Mille	1
H. T. B.	1	Hiawatha	1
Walter T. Bayliss	1	Arthur Fuller	1

Collected by Jesse Burton, £2.

Lily Marney	2½	Clarence Hotel, Hyde-road	1
Tilly Bebe	2½	Rose Tilly	1
Virto and Irene	2	Albert Bushell	1
Bill Bob	1	Jack Charman	1
Walt. Elliot	1	Mdlle. Reza	1
Jack Jones	1	Hamilton Hill	1
Patsy Morton	1	Edwin Adeler	1
Billy Stephens	1	Lennox Barry	1
F. M. Carpenter	1	Bill Banbery	1
Mr. Beer	1	Bill Humberston	1
Trixy Hardeen	1	Alf Chambers	1
A. Kelsall	1	Bill Davis	1
Auto and Mobil	1	A. Burgess	1
Sergeant Maine	1	J. C. Davies	1
H. Baldwin	1	James Farmer	1
T. Fox	1	W. H. Mandry	1
A Friend	1	Jesse Burton	1
Mr. Young	1		
Mr. Cowan	1		

Collected by Mr. Will Evans, £2 9s.

Will Evans	20	Harry Poole	1
Cards, H. P.	10	T. A. Edge	1
Bunghole	2½	Charles Beecham	1
Ian Colquhoun	2	James Fawn	1
Whit Cunliffe	1	Dolly Harmer	1
G. H. Elliott	1	Harold Finden	1
Dandy George	1	Geo. Stevenson	1
Geo. H. Dyball	1	Mr. Binks	1
M. Hall	1	Mr. Coarde, of Bass and Co.	1
Chen Yorke	1		

Collected by Mr. Fred Coles, £2.

Six Bros. Luck	6	Charlie Dillon	1
Bonnie Goodwin	2	Bros. Huxter	1
Caban	2	G. P.	1
George Neno	1	Lily Turner	1
Lachie Thompson	1	S. W. Strachan	1
Post Mason	1	Creighton Adams	1
Tiny Reiff	1	G. T. H. Greene	1
Harry Calvo	1	Harry Hill	1
Juno Salmo	1	Mabel Thorne	1
Musical Palmers	1	Walter Emerson	1
Fred Wersker	1	Krouey Bros.	1
Dot Stanley	1	Wartenberg Bros.	1
Gillen	1	Cissie Cutler	1
J. Crichton	1	Tom Grave	1
A. Jackson	1	Hanco	1
Herbert Rule	1	Frank Benson	1
Ernie Bee	1		

Collected by Miss Florrie Robina, 10s.

Florrie Robina	1	Florrie Robina	1
Florrie Robina	1	Florrie Robina	1
Florrie Robina	1	Florrie Robina	1
Florrie Robina	1	Florrie Robina	1
Florrie Robina	1	Florrie Robina	1

Collected by Mr. Tom Wootwell, £s.

Queen and Le Brun	2	Harry Kirk	1
Walter Gasco	1	Tom Hales	1
Tom Hearn	1	Johny Danvers	1
Wootwell	1		

Collected by Mr. George Malcolm, £s.

George Malcolm	1	Harry Danby	1
Alfred Collins	1	Freddie Malcolm	1
C. Bowen	1	Harry Ongar	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Anderson, £1 2s.

A. G. Hawkins	1	Harry Anderson, Jun.	1
C. Clarke	1	Mrs Anderson	1
Mrs. C. Clarke	1	J. S. W.	1
R. Robinson	1	F. C.	1
J. R. Hill	1	A. J. P.	1
W. and C.	1	H. Bennet	1
A. G. Cuthbert	1	Mrs. Ellice	1
G. Dike	1	Mrs. Bowden	1
Melvic	1	M. Dickery	1
"	1	H. Hall	1
Winnie Derson	1	Harry Anderson	1

Collected by Mr. Mike S. Whallen, 10s.

Mike S. Whallen	1	Victor Stevens	1
Frances McNulty	1	J. H. H.	1
Dolly McNulty	1	Alan Dale	1
H. Dent	1	Mr. Wood	1
Alma Jones	1	Mrs. Whallen	1

Collected by Mr Arnold Cooke, 16s.

Arthur Linton	1	The Metropole	1
Miss Ethel Lamont	1	The Joiner's Arms	1
Doris Ballard	1	W. S. R.	1
Gorgonzola	1	Mrs Kohler	1
Rules	1	F. Shelley	1
Windsor	1	C. W. Ringwood, The Rose and Crown, Hammersmith	1
Yates's	1	Fred Murray	1
E. C. Webb	1		
A. J.	1		

Collected by Mr Walter Stockwell, £1 14s.

Shillings.		Shillings.	
The Sivronis	2	P. Palmer	1
Bandoni	2	F. Durant	1
Walter Stockwell	1	B. Jordan	1
Walter Wallis	1	Percy Murray	1
R. G. Fox	1	Grove Duo	1
Fitzroy	1	W. Munroe	1
Miss F. Chester	1	G. Barclay	1
W. Oliver	1	H. Simms	1
Richard Cass	1	Jack Richards	1
J. Spain	1	J. Laws	1
T. Callaghan	1	Jack Lorimer	1
T. Fitzroy	1	Mrs H. Simms	1
Jack Charman	1	Denmark Pair	1
Annie Laurie	1	H. H. Braham	1
Nellie Lewis	1	Eyre Wymfred	1
Walter Bartley	1	Frank J. Woods	1

Collected by Mr J. Sparrow, £2 9s.

J. Sparrow	10	Nellie Wilson	1
Wal Pink	2	Emma Don	1
Barton and Franklin	2	P. Murray	1
F. Reeves	1	J. B. Peterman	1
L. Dreams	1	Fitzroys	1
J. Fortune	1	Alf Auckland	1
Harry Goodson	1	T. C. Callaghan	1
W. Bentley	1	Rex Fox	1
R. Cass	1	Jordan	1
Mozondos	1	Pedlar	1
Tee and Tee	1	Bob Haulon	1
Rossi and Vaughan	1	Lauro	1
A. Veno	1	Travis	1
B. Monks	1	E. J. Sheldon	1
E. G. Bale	1	Tacius	1
Dandy George	1	G. H. Elliott	1
W. Stockwell	1	Stewart and Morgan	1
Valveno	1	C. Heath	1
C. Chapman	1	Annie Laurie	1
H. Cazman	1		

Collected by Harris and Worth, Macnaghten's Touring Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," £1 1s.

Harris and Worth	2	Miss Daisy Reed	1
Will Lyiton	1	Miss Vivien	1
Jack Foley	1	Miss Harding	1
Miss Hurman	1	Miss Stewart	1
Chas. Cork	1	Mr Baines	1
Miss Leonard	1	Mr Charles Hylton	1
Miss Ivy Gallard	1	A. May	1
Mr James	1	W. Whylie	1
Harry Morgan	1	R. H. Barker	1
Miss Dora Langham	1	Miss Bartlett	1

Collected by Mr Fred Spencer, J. F. Elliston's "Cinderella" Company, York, 16½s.

Sisters Meredith	1½	Mabel Englehardt	1
Ernie Mayne	1	Hettie Zillwood	1
Tom Owen	1	Mamie Stuart	1
Tatten Hall	1	Belle Worstencroft	1
Don Harriadine	1	Carola	1
Fred Spencer	1	Lewis Leslie	1
Jack Lane	1	Marie Rayburn	0½
Madcaps	1	Marie Lindner	0½
Ted Houghton	1		

Collected by Mr Joe Lawrence, 19s. 6d.

Tray and Rich	2½	Ben Whiteley	1
Henry Clarke	2½	Harry Grey	1
Fenton and Harrison	2½	Syd Godfrey	1
Tom Tinsley	1	Reginald Rutter	1
Ras B.	1	Ted Leopold	1
Joe Hughes	1	Ariel and Astarte	1
Ben Elen	1	Forest and King	1
T. W. Wright	1		

Collected by Mr Harry Barnard, £1 2s. 6d.

Harry Barnard	10	Alec Jacobs	1
Henry Cazman	1½	Wooly Jacobs	1
David Phillips	1	Charlie Edwards	1
Ben Phillips	1	Charlie Booty	1
Lewis Phillips	1	H. C.	1
Joe Phillips	1	Mr Golding	1
Horace Barnard	1		

Collected by Grell and Grey, at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, Pantomime, "Cinders," £3.

John Hart	20	Eida Burman	1
J. W. Kowley	5	Miss Payne	1
Grell and Grey	5	C. Chambers	1
Roze and Calvert	2½	Will Ratcliffe	1
Carlton	2½	Cyril Rawden	1
F. Fowler	2½	E. W. Daunton	1
Katie May	2½	Mrs Keene	1
Leo Grieve	2½	J. Simpson	1
J. R. Nightingale	1	E. Dickson	1
D. Drew	1	Chorus Gents.	1s. 7d.
Maud Holland	1	A Friend	1s. 1½d.
Marie Daltra	1	Children	9½d.
Irene Verona	1		

Collected by Miss Nellie Christie, £2 8s.

Nellie Christie	20	Wally Scott	2
N. Coleman and Dome	5	Fred Solo	2
Tossing Austins	4	M. D. V.	1½
Mabel Osborn	3	Sisters James	1½
Virto	2½	P. L. F.	1
A. Kelsall	2½	Miss Castleton	1
Box Baxter	2		

Collected by Mr Tom Vine, £1 7s. 6d.

George Gilbey	5	Baby Violet M'Farlane	1
W. J. Churchill (Willie)	2½	George Bernard	1
Clara Nisbet	2½	Charles Frazer	1
Tom Vine	2½	Beattie Worth	1
Five Royal Zerbinis	2	John Sylvester Sage	1
Les Kyasyas	2	Peter Leckie	1
Fielding and Hull	2	Marie Mason	1
E. W. Selman	1	Mr Cumminger	1

Collected by Walton and Lester, Brixton Theatre, S.W., £1 7s.

Chard and Clarey	5	Mav Kent	1
Brett and Orford	5	A. W. Hanwell	1
Walton and Lester	5	Somers Bellamy	1
Nat Lewis	2½	Madge Haines	1
Ted Young	2½	Art Bewlay	1
Frank Bratsell	2		

Collected by E. A. Bridgen, the Granville, Walham-green, £1 10s.

Chas. Dixon	1	Lily Simmons	1
Kate Lynd	1	Francis and Melli	1
Harry Lane	1	Edisonograph	1
Bella Bright	1	V. L. Granville	1
Tom E. Hughes	1	Victor Newman	1
E. W. Manning	1	Lieut. Albini	1
Great Scott	1	Tambo and Tambo	1
L. Lennox	1	Will Toole	1
Les Voces	1	Ruby Bijou	1
Sisters Caselli	1	Arthur A. Davenport	1
Lydia Dreams	1	Edwardes & Espinosa	1
Gus Hindell	1	Dora Clifford	1
Ida Royston	1	The Phantos	1
G. Unllaw	1	Cissy Dryden	1
Chas. Wren	1	John Lawson	1

Collected by Mr Joe Boganny, £3 3s.

Joe Boganny	10	W. Larner	1
E. B. Teena	5	Henry Scanlon	1
Tom Prichard	5	A. E. Jersey	1
Kimberley Boys	2½	Tom J. Morton	1
Will Polnski, jun.	2½	Tom Cruwys	1
Mignon Tremaine	2½	Connie Leon	1
Kate Hardren	2½	Will Moua	1
Frank Hilbert	2½	S. Major Jones	1
Dora Greve	2½	Tom	1
Nemo	2½	C. Lang	1
Violet Frew	2½	Tee and Tee	1
W. C. Walford	2	Fred Leighton	1
Kathleen Gray	2	Charie Hilbert	1
R. Jenson	2	Massona	1
Claude Clifton	2	Will Freedo	1

Collected by Mr Tom Fancourt, 13s

Tom Fancourt	1	Harry Gribben	1
Jennie Rubie	1	Billy Elliott	1
George Belrose	1	Oliver Conroy	1
Ruby Winstone	1	Max Stirling	1
Lily Black	1	J. Brannhan	1
Beatrice Renee	1	George Berdou	1
Ernest Stevens	1		

Collected by Mr. C. J. Bartleet Perry, £2 15s. 6d.

Morritt	2½	Mons. Slippere	1
Mdlle. Lumiere	2½	Chas. R. Whittle	1
Henri de Marse	2½	Keen and Waller	1
The Toreadors	2½	Barle and Ormonde	1
The Athlones	2½	Lukos and St. John	1
American Quintette	2	Gus Harris	1
Six Brothers Luck	2	Vaudeville Trio	1
The Erwins	2	Edith St. Clare	1
Bonnecelli Troupe	2	Geo. M. Schilling	1
Brinn	1	Wal Croft	1
Chas. Vandyke Co.	1	Pollo Jerome	1
The O'Learys	1	The Arleys	1
Fielding and Hull	1	Lily St. Claire	1
Sid Bandon	1	Lily Flexmore	1
Fred Curran	1	Harry Drew	1
Florence Hill	1	A. Higginson	1
De Henau and Aladima	1	Collins and Kent	1
The Alesons	1	Marie Pownall	1
Alec McNulty	1	Reddick Anderson	1
Henri Abdy and Marbelle	1	Mons. Valoni	1
Bob Hamilton	1	Mdlle. Haydee	1
Mdlle. Lillian	1	R. Judge	1

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £2 12s.

Horace Wheatley	21	L. Anarto	1
Master Wheatley	1	Q. C.	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Dorothy L. Clark	1
Eileen Wheatley	1	Sam Walch	1
Terrance Wheatley	1	Cee Mee	1
Norah Wheatley	1	G. Gunhorp	1
Grandma Wheatley	1	Ernest Spalding	1
A. R.	1	Ned Kennedy	1
F. R.	1	J. W. Rickaby	1
Picton Roxborough	1	Touch	1
Fanny Wright	1	A. Bagot	1
Harry Maxam	1	Ganty	1
Miss La Touche	1	Mrs. Ganty	1
Louie Collier	1	Baby Ganty	1
Adeline Yohle	1	Bob Ganty	1
A. Anarto	1	Jack Ganty, Dog	1

Collected by Mueller and Coyne, £1 14s. 6d.

T. Tambo	1	J. C. M.	1
W. Mueller	1	S. M. Thompson, M.D.	1
C. Coyne	1	A. J. B.	1
L. Rates	1	An Irish Bark	1
Beatrice Hayden	1	Anna De Grey	1
Edie Veno	1	Jenny Driscoll	1
Alf Reeves	1	Fred Leslie	1
Ernest Korrie	1	F. J. Hayes	1
Maisie Cooke	1	Capt. R. J. Slavin	1
Leslie Bros.	1	O Gust Family	1
N. Adams	1	Geo. Newburn	1
Peppo	1	Geo. Ridgwell	1
Mascotte Trio	1	Butterflies	1
J. Le Fre	1	Helen Martin	1
W. Le Fre	1	Will Moran	½
Wm. Robertus	1	W. B.	½
Frank Harwood	1	W. Fern	½
Fred Haulon	1		
G. E. Stamford	1		

Collected by the Three Novells, 9s.

Fred Staig	2	John Fossett	1
Paul Hesse Trio	1	R. Bentley	1
Ernest Dillon	1	Novells	1
G. Laplace	1	J. Taylor	1

Collected by Mr Dan Crawley, 6s.

Brothers Etherien	2	Lilian Bishop	1
Dan Crawley	1	Charles Sloman	1
Jake Friedman	1		

Collected by Mr John E. Coyle, £1 19s. 6d.

B. Q.	5	Mr Prestworth	1
T. G.	2½	Mr Stringer	1
R. and R.	2	Thompson Mac	1
W. M. Friends	2	Mr Lucas	1
R. W.	2	A. Rodger	1
L. M.	1	D. N. V. C.	1
D. D.	1	Harmsworth	1
L. C.	1	Harmsworth II.	1
J. P.	1	Soutter	1
G. P.	1	Cowen	1
F. C.	1	Mr Infant	1
D. D.	1	Misers	1
Mr. Guineas	1	Coyle	1
Two Friends	1	Coyle	1
Mr Loftus	1	Coyle	1
Mr Storrie	1		

Collected by Mr. Walter Munroe, £1 19s.

H. J. Corner	2½	Karl Hegel	4
Katie Butler	2	Tom McGovern	4
Romsakof	1½	Walter Munroe	2½
J. Dolaro	1	Charles Donal	2
Mr. Wilson	1	Ella Retford	1
Mrs. Tiso	1	A. Donais	1
Dandies	1	Madame Emmy	1
J. Olrac	1	Trapnell Family	1
Miss Winona Winter	1	Wilfredo	1
George Newburn	1	Robertus	1
Lilian Lowe	1	Tom Edwards	1
Josie Walker	1	Charles Nevardo	1
George Adams	1	Lillie Langtry	1

Collected by Mr. Bob Hutt, £1 1s.

Bob Hutt	5	Fred Dark	1
Mrs. Hutt	1	T. W. Rossier	1
Violet Hutt	1	Tai Davies	1
Cymric Bach	1	S. Delevine	1
Fantoche	1	F. Davies	1
Tom Gilmore	1	R. C. Jenkins	1
Arthur Godfrey	1	C. Mortimer	1
Minnie Duncan	1	C. D. Stuart	1
Clifford Morgan	1		

Collected by Mr. J. Sparrow, £3 13s. 6d.

Kioto	5	Fred Pemberton	5
Fred Eustace	3	Watson Family	3
W. Leotard	2	Ida Collard	2
Er. Montifiore	2	Blake and Granby	2
Newham and Latimer	2	Fred Karno	2
Les Voces	1	J. H. Hunt	2
Vickey Dalmar	1	The Kings	1
Johnny Dwyer	1	Hal Chapter	1
Kit Keen	1	Alaska	1
Hubert Bartlett	1	Gene Hughes	1
N. B. Ashley	1	Snow and Farron	1
Otto Schuman	1	Gertrude Glenn	1
Archie Glen	1	Zenary Bros.	1
Ryder Slone	1	Condon and Preston	1
Lyons Trio	1	Coram	1
Ted Leopold	1	Dan Conroy	1
J. C. Manley	1	Gilbert Girard	1
Max Trevally	1	Elysian Troupe	1
De Vere and Kendrick	1	G. P. R. Burgess	1
Francis	1	Nellie Adams	1
Clark and Gill	1	Geo. Prince	1
Fred Elton	1	Allen and Gintur	1
Florry King	1	F. McArthur	1
Richard Cass	1	C. Clifton	1
E. Edelsten	1	Hughes and Elliott	1
Cissie Dryden	1	Warden Reed	1
McKay and Lawrence	1	Bert Danser	½
Harry Grey	1		

Collected by O'Connor and Brady, 13s.

J. O'Connor	2	E. R. Dainez	2
Gertie Gitana	2	Florrrie Forde	2
C. Brady	2	Doris Lillian	1
Frank Dunlop	2		

Collected by Miss Maude Mortimer, £1 13s.

Dan Rolyat	5	Maude Mortimer	5
Florence Smithson	5	Cleary	2
Winnie Browne	1	J. Humphries	2
Gwennie Hasto	1	H. Catchart	1
Lillie Souter	1	G. Kuyell	1
J. L. Johnson	1	S. Morris	1
May Vallance	1	J. A. W.	1
F. Storrc	1	A. Mascard	1
A. Ashdown	1	C. Grant	1
S. Adeson	1		

Collected by the Musical Palmers, £1 2s.

Geo. L. Mead	1	Elsie Cates	1
F. Glanville	1	Doris Cates	1
Mrs. A. Eaton	1	Margy Cates	1
Pulo	1	E. Whiles	1
Musical Palmers	1	M. A. Forge	1
Musical Palmers	1	W. Whiles	1
Musical Palmers	1	E. Wormald	1
Musical Palmers	1	Mrs. Wormald	1
Musical Palmers	1	W. Banbery	1
Steve McCarthy	1	Mrs. Banbery	1
Tom Anderson	1	W. Davis	1

Collected by Morris and Morris, £1.

T. B. Morris	13	C. Lolher	1
R. L.	1	Brown and Robinson	1
Mersano	1	M.	1
Mike Morris	1	Arthur Melrose	1

Collected by the Rushforths, £1 4s.

Sam Higham	2	Annie Senior	1
Alf Thorp	2	Ellie Mortlock	1
Hilton and Hilton	1½	Lozelle	1
J. Adamson	1½	Herbert Maden	1
Loudoun Cameron	1½	The Wynfords	1
Corporation	1½	M'Queen	½
Wm. Ashton	1	J. Huntley	½
The Rushforths	1	Frank Tarbuck	½
Collin and Croft	1	G. L.	½
W. Dalton	1	Frank Craig	½
Mrs. Dalton	1	H. R.	½
Mr. Clare	1	Even money	½
J. Bradley	1		

Collected by Miss Nellie Wilson, £15.

George Chirgwin and Kids	20	Rose Hamilton	1
Fred and Kitty Poplar	12	H. E. Adams	1
Clark and Hamilton	5	J. R. Dipple	1
Joe Elvin	5	Woolfe	1
Topsy Robina	5	Walter Norman	1
Marie Bernard	5	Harry Lundy	1
The Erwins	4	Mrs. Claxton	1
Mr. & Mrs. John Othen	3	Edward Bosanquet	1
Mrs. Fred Ginnett	3	Eileen Douglas	1
Floradora Girls	3	Bessie Travis	1
Nellie Wilson	3	Dot Hardy	1
Harry Phillips	3	Jo Jo Webb	1
Fred Karno	2½	C. Beecham	1
Tom Burrows	2½	Lydia Neilson	1
Kate Carney	2½	Little Queenie May	1
George Barclay	2½	The Anglos	1
Boswell's Circus	2½	Alick Addie	1
Vesta Victoria	2½	Annie Reid	1
Cliffe Berzac	2½	W. Sidebottom	1
Mr. and Mrs. Learoyd	2½	Whisper and Bloom	1
R. Dove	2½	H. Bosworth	1
Victoria Monks	2	D. D. Coomber	1
Ray Wallace	2	J. E. Giggs	1
Edith Carney	2	McMays	1
Alice Lloyd	2	L. L. M. B.	1
Rosie Lloyd	2	W. Peet	1
The Mayvilles	2	F. Chappell	1
Harry Clifford	2	J. T. Partridge	1
Marie Braham	2	Lennox Barry	1
Two Friends	2	Tom Hughes	1
Phillips and Terry	2	Minnie Beresford	1
Millie Tempest	2	J. King, sen.	1
John Nathan	2	J. King, jun.	1
Frank Seeley and Wife	2	M. Holley	1
Athas and Collins	2	Thomas Baylis	1
A. Grimmett	2	W. A. Weekes	1
Tom Shaw	2	Jessie Albini	1
Daisy James	2	H. C.	1
George Leyton	2	P. Block	1
M. B. Leavitt	2	Leon Bassett	1
Frank Tilsley	2	Jesse Sparrow	1
J. Broom, the Antelope	2	Walter Clyde	1
Mrs. Culff	2	Mrs. Richardson	1

Notice of Removal to more Commodious and Convenient Offices.

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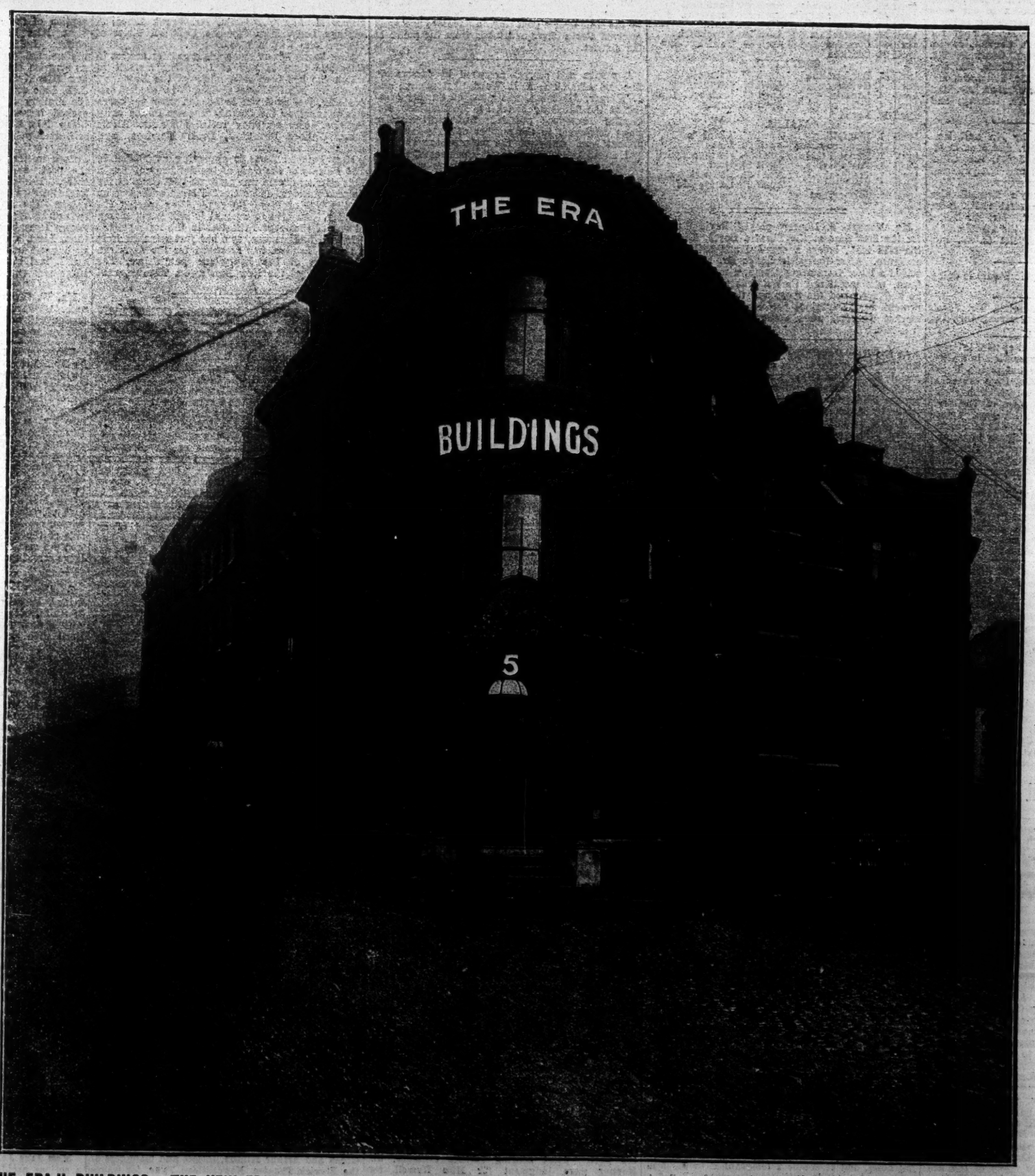

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"THE ERA" BUILDINGS. THE NEW EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT OFFICES OF "THE ERA," 5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Members of the Theatrical, Music Hall, and Allied Professions who are travelling about are cordially invited to use the new address of "The Era" as their permanent London address. Letters received at "The Era" Buildings, Tavistock Street, Strand, W.C., will be immediately re-addressed according to instructions. American and Foreign Artistes are welcome at the new Offices.

Telephone: 4747 Central. **Telegraphic address: The Era, London.**

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The fairs ahead are Holmfirth, a Yorkshire town, with 10,000 people; Leigh (Dorset), Stourbridge, Bridgnorth, Bridlington, Grantham, Alcester, Ottery St. Mary, Stamfordham, Worthen, Durham, Gloucester, Lindfield, and Odiham, for England; and the following places in Wales are listed for the 1st: Llanfyllion, Maesycwmmer, Menai Bridge, Pontypool, and Tredegar.

Of these fairs we supply the following business notes:—Stourbridge is a growing town of Worcestershire, the population now 16,302, having increased by 2,000 since 1891. The local industries are glass and iron works. It is the centre of a large industrial district.

Bridgnorth, a market town of Shropshire, with a population of over 6,000, a slight increase on the census of 1901. It holds its fairs under charters dating back to the reigns of Henry II., III., and IV. With the exception of a carpet factory and two worsted spinning mills, the trade is mainly agricultural.

Bridlington Spring Fair is worth the attention of travellers making for the great North round.

Grantham is an old Charter Fair, dating back to the fourth Edward. It is the centre of a great agricultural district, and within easy access of the principal towns of Lincolnshire. There are extensive manufactories of agricultural implements, a large number of brickyards, a paper mill, and amongst its minor industries must be mentioned the making of gingerbread. Grantham Fairs are great local institutions.

Gloucester, a rapidly-growing city, with a population of 48,000. Its fairs are held under various charters, the principal being Barton Fair, on Sept. 28. The Spring Fair, except for shows making their way into Wales or Cornwall, is of little business importance.

At Corwen (Wales) Fair, the following shows and other entertainments were on exhibition:—Simon's Cinematograph Theatre, Wright's Academy of Fine Art, Farrell's Excelsior Steam Circus, the galloping horses, manual swings, rifle saloon, bottle battery, and coker sheets, and with them Fossett's rifle saloon and bottle smasher.

We have to supplement our brief report of the funeral of the late John Greatorex in our issue of last week by the following interesting particulars:—Besides Mr. Fossett and Mr. Simon, the mourners included Mr. and Mrs. Connell, son-in-law and daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Cordwell, Mr. and Mrs. Manders, Mr. and Mrs. Hinde, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Mr. Pritchard, Mr. John Simons, jun., Miss Emma Simons, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Gilleland, Mr. Gurney, and Mr. Moran.

Beautiful wreaths were sent by Mr. and Mrs. Farrell, Mr. and Mrs. Senior, Mr. and Mrs. Cordwell, Mr. Murcey, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Gilleland, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Lewis, and Mrs. Simons.

At Henley-in-Arden, Holloway's New Empire Theatre is paying a very successful visit, large houses being secured every night. Mr. W. Holloway has given a benefit in aid of the Stratford-on-Avon Hospital, and the sum of £11 6s. 4d. was taken.

At Studley, Eagle's Photographic Studio is doing capital business.

At the Victoria Hall, Southampton, Mr. Jacob Studt's world's fair is going very strong this, the last week, of the present season.

Colne March Fair this year is of special interest, owing to the fact that the Corporation is trying, in a Private Bill of theirs now before the House of Commons, to exclude stalls &c., from the usual standing ground in the main street. The shows at the fair were W. Clark's Theatre of Varieties, and cinematograph, T. Payne's bioscope, Prince Samoada Mystic, and the ground booths of Orenzo, Westray and Gibson, with Gal Hague's black and white boxers, Holden's ostriches and their No. 2 set, the steam yachts of Goldthorpe, Marshall's gondolas, R. H. Williams's bike motor track and Winchester range, Sharpe's little horses, rifle saloon, and swings, Shuttleworth's miniature horses, big boats, and varieties, swings by Messrs. Slater and Holland, and Cornwall's Winchester range and bottle battery. Cokers, Emmas, stalls, &c., were supplied by Messrs. Sharrock, Freer, Ingham, Lorenzo, White, and Slater.

Stockport Fair, under the excellent direction of Mr. T. Hurst, for the British Roundabout Proprietors' Showmen's Union, was well maintained by Dyer's Theatre and cinematograph exhibition, Wright's Academy of Fine Arts, Ingham's up-to-date peep show; John Collins's three premier machines, &c. Hibbert exhibited the Kaffir circus set and a range of Park swings. Cordwell exhibits were swings, gem horses, strikers, Emma sheets, and variety frames. The other entertainers were Fletcher, Johnson, Burke, Humphreys, Mercer, Ingham, Clough, Whatmore, Edwards, Kinder, Smith Manning, and Wright. That enterprising local lessee and manager, H. J. Wallis, of the Liverpool district, has started a Spring Fair at "Spion Kop," Garston. The shows, &c., were Cordwell's lifeograph, Wallis's electric roundabout and miniature horses, and also his well-known aggregation of minor novelties, shooters, Emmas, and varieties, the varieties and stalls of Messrs. Delaney, Hall, Fletcher, Walton, and the Brothers Cordwell.

A Most interesting film has just been produced by Mr. Paul, of Holborn, in which Herr Unthan, the armless wonder, is seen upon the stage prior to his start on a sensational drive through London. Having a game of nap with a friend, he is seen to shuffle the cards, cut for deal, deal out the cards, play, picking up his winning tricks, &c. After winning, he invites his friend to join him in a drink. He proceeds to uncork a bottle of wine with his feet, finally pouring out two glasses. Holding the glass between his first and second toes, Unthan then lifts it to his mouth and drinks, afterwards taking a handkerchief from his pocket to wipe his mouth. We next see him on the driver's seat of a phaeton to which two fiery American mustangs are harnessed. After making himself comfortable, he gathers up the reins and whip and drives off, amid loud cheering, with the horses under perfect control. We finally see him drive towards the camera, and to prove his marvellous power he pulls the horses up to a standstill right in front of the machine. A truly marvellous exhibition. The length of this film is 190 feet.

Testo's cinematograph show, after a long season of ten weeks at Ryhill, gave a performance there on Tuesday for the benefit of the fire brigade to a full house. Councillor Marshall gave two songs with good effect. The vicar of Ryhill was present, and moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Testo for his kindness in giving the whole of the proceeds for such a worthy cause, and said the performance was very instructive. He had never been in a show before, but he should certainly pay other visits.

Crecraft's royal electric bioscope and variety show are on a visit to Barry Dock, accompanied by the American side show, Plinstons Bros'. big wheel sensation, and John Scarrott with his up-to-date boxing exhibition. Owing to Crecrafts' great success with their latest coloured pictures on the American bioscope, all intend to remain in Barry another fortnight.

This week at De Branca's novelty museum, Waterloo-place, Londonderry, we have the Royal Court Midgets who are showing to large and appreciative audiences. Silvia Vigor, the Mexican armless queen; Peter Dempster, the Scottish orator; and Madame Myers, palmist, are also among the attractions.

FAIRS, FEASTS AND WAKES FOR APRIL, 1905

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ENGLAND.

April 1.	Durham	April 24.	Derby
April 1.	Gloucester	April 24.	Doncaster
April 1.	Lindfield	April 24.	Evesham
April 1.	Odiham	April 24.	Exeter
April 3.	Dawlish	April 24.	Garston
April 3.	Great Grimsby	April 24.	Halesowen
April 3.	Plymouth	April 24.	Habberley Valley (Worcs.)
April 4.	Hexham		
April 4.	Leominster	April 24.	Hatfield
April 5.	Bridgport	April 24.	Hinckley
April 5.	Horsham	April 24.	Hockham
April 5.	Swindon	April 24.	Jarrow-on-Tyne
April 8.	Brighouse	April 24.	Leigh (Lancs.)
April 8.	Hertford	April 24.	Lincoln
April 8.	Yarmouth	April 24.	Littleboro'
April 10.	Worksop	April 24.	Malvern
April 13.	Accrington	April 24.	Middlesboro'
April 14.	Caister	April 24.	Midsomer Norton
April 15.	Bedford		
April 15.	Malton	April 24.	Morecambe
April 15.	Pickering	April 24.	New Brighton
April 15.	Pontefract	April 24.	Newcastle-on-Tyne
April 15.	Shaftesbury		
April 17.	Luton	April 24.	Newmarket
April 18.	Kirkhampton	April 24.	Northampton
April 18.	Wareham	April 24.	Portsmouth
April 19.	St. John's Chapel	April 24.	Rothwell
		April 24.	Selby
April 19.	Stanhope	April 24.	Southport
April 20.	Beverley	April 24.	South Shields
April 20.	Bildesden	April 24.	Torquay
April 20.	Devizes	April 24.	Tring
April 20.	Guisboro'	April 25.	Barnoldswick
April 20.	Loughboro'	April 25.	Bracknell
April 20.	Newbury	April 25.	Folkestone
April 20.	N'th Walsham	April 25.	Gainsboro'
April 20.	Norwich	April 25.	Hitchin
April 20.	Orpington	April 25.	Iron Acton
April 21.	Bacup	April 25.	Longton
April 21.	East Grinstead	April 25	Romsey
April 21.	Haslingden	April 26.	Barnard Castle
April 21.	Padiham		
April 21.	Todmorden	April 28.	Bicester
April 22.	Bewdley	April 28.	Exmouth
April 22.	Bilston	April 28.	Horncastle
April 22.	Blackburn	April 29.	Alton
April 22.	Chesham	April 29.	Cobham
April 22.	Darlington.	April 29.	Eastwood
April 22.	Godmanchester	April 29.	Kendal
April 22.	Horwich	April 29.	Kenilworth
April 22.	North Shields	April 29.	Knutsford
April 22.	Wanstead Flats	April 29.	Longtown
April 24.	Birkenhead	April 29.	Louth
April 24.	Cheltenham	April 29.	Newchurch
April 24.	Clevedon	April 29.	Newick
April 24.	Crediton		

SCOTLAND.

April 3.	Dunfermline	April 17.	Arbroath
April 4.	Govan	April 24.	Edinburgh
April 4.	Lanark	April 29.	Bridge of Allan
April 4.	Selkirk	April 29.	Cupar
April 15.	Levan		

WALES.

April 1.	Llanfyllion	April 16.	Aberdare
April 1.	Maesycwmmer	April 20.	Llanelly
April 1.	Menai Bridge	April 24.	Merthyr Tydvil
April 1.	Pontypool	April 24.	Mold
April 1.	Tredegar	April 24.	Newport
April 8.	Newtown	April 24.	Pontypridd
April 15.	Carmarthen		

Mr. Norman V. Norman played David Garrick for the first time at the Theatre Royal, York, on the 17th inst., before a crowded and enthusiastic audience. After the performance Mr. Norman received a letter from a gentleman, a resident of the town, who mentioned that it was the 100th time he had witnessed the play, and that he had been present at the original performance at the Haymarket Theatre, when Sothern appeared in the title-rôle.

At the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, the attraction this week is the appearance of the Imperial Boys' Orchestra, known as "The Kilted Kiddies." The band is presented as commanded to appear before the King at Balmoral, and this is its first appearance on a theatre stage. The boys provide a rich musical treat. The programme is varied with songs, Highland dances, and ventriloquial sketches.

At the Elephant and Castle on Monday the Irish-American drama, *Sons of Erin*, had excellent representation by Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company. The scenery and dresses are exceptionally good. Mr. Ernest E. Norris enacts the hero, Val Desmond, with much virility and cleverness. Mr. Paige Lawrence makes a good Charles Delaware, and Mr. Frank Harding, as the polished scoundrel Ralph Vincent, is very successful. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn is a dignified Dr. Corrigan, and Cass Kennedy is ably depicted by Mr. Edwin Bennett. Mr. Arthur Wilson is effective as Tom Corrigan, and Mr. Howard Templeton, as the devil-may-care Terry O'Hagan, makes a big hit. Mr. Thomas Ball acts admirably as a scout, and Mr. Alfred Holles merits approval as a negro servant. Mrs. Bennett wins enthusiastic applause by her charming rendering of the rôle of Kathleen Corrigan. As Margarita, Miss Judith Kyrle gives a clever impersonation. Miss Edie Martin is a vivacious Bridget Maloney, and the part of Mrs. Kennedy is ably sustained by Miss Emily Dowton. The front of the house is in the capable hands of Mr. F. Gillions, who is assiduous in looking after the comfort of its patrons.

Messrs. Dottridge, Longdon and Livesay's company is playing *The Village Blacksmith* at the Theatre Royal, Smethwick, this week. Mr. Sam Livesey has scored a distinct success in the title-rôle, and Miss Laura Walker, as the blacksmith's wife, is also well received. Mr. J. L. Power acts the villain athlete, Captain Leo, with capital emphasis; and Messrs. Geo. Campbell and T. E. Marshall, together with Mrs. T. C. Livesey and Miss Maggie Edwards, sustain the comic interest. A wrestling match between Captain Leo and the masked wrestler (Mr. Sam Livesay), is a popular item in the entertainment.

The annual smoking concert of representatives of John Dewar and Sons, Ltd., was given in the King's Hall, Holborn, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., the attendance numbering over a thousand. Sir Thomas Dewar himself presided, and in reply to the toast of his health, said he had recently travelled 14,000 miles in America and Canada, but was glad to be home again. He recognised with extreme pleasure amongst the guests several friends he had known ever since the first day he came to London. He concluded by telling an amusing story, illustrating how deeply the American is absorbed in business affairs. One day he was watching a motor race, at which there occurred even more than the usual number of casualties, without anyone being very much concerned. "You don't seem to place much value on the sacredness of life on this side of the Atlantic," said he to a neighbour. "I guess that is so," said the neighbour, who said he was a hotel-keeper. A short time previously he had amongst his guests a member of a New York dry goods firm travelling in the district for orders. "Now this man died in my hotel, and of course I telegraphed to the firm asking what to do with their partner. I got a reply—and slick it was—'Search all William's pockets, wire his orders, and send on his samples by passenger train.'"

H.R.H. Princess Alexander of Teck has very graciously granted her patronage to the grand "Noah's Ark" Bazaar in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, a Society for the encouragement of kindness to animals, which is to take place at Prince's Skating Rink, Knightsbridge (kindly lent by his Grace the Duke of Bedford), on June 6, 7, and 8.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

At a meeting of the No. 1 Branch of the National Society of Stage Employees, held at the offices on Wednesday evening, twenty-four applications for membership were considered. There were five applications for assistance from the Benevolent Fund. In three cases grants were made; in the two other cases the committee were unable to accede to the applications. Two appeals for legal assistance were considered; and the secretary was empowered to obtain the solicitor's advice thereon. A letter was read from Mr. Oswald Stoll relative to a communication sent him by the committee. The secretary was authorised to place before Mr. Stoll the views of the committee on the matter under consideration.

The question of admitting the late members of the Dramatic and Musical Fund, who are connected with the working staff, was considered. The secretary had had inquiries from late members and called upon the secretary who was unable to say when the portion of the fund to be distributed among the theatrical societies would be so distributed. It was decided to communicate with the late members of the fund, and request them to send in their applications to be transferred, such applications to be dealt with immediately an official communication was received from the Dramatic and Musical Fund. It appears that the committee has ceased to act, and that the affairs of the fund are in the hands of the trustees. The delay is due to the absence of Mr. Edward Terry.

A meeting of the Theatrical Sports Committee will be held next week, when the preliminary business will be dealt with.

The staff of the Empire Music Hall, Dublin, have formed a football club; and it is suggested that a rowing club should be started, and a crew sent to compete in the London Theatrical Regatta. Mr. White, the captain of the tug-of-war team, is taking an active part in the matter; and the managers of the house are also interesting themselves.

It was found that a number of the regular night men could not attend the Thursday matinées at the Savoy Theatre; and a staff rehearsal took place on Tuesday of those engaged for the matinées.

A number of changes are taking place in the staff at the Britannia Theatre. Mr. Abott, the business manager, who is leaving, was presented by the staff with a gold ring on Saturday last, and received also a silver match-box from the police of the district.

A dinner and concert arranged by Messrs. P. Thomas, Alhambra; A. E. Wood, Shaftesbury; and J. Warner, Alhambra, was given on Sunday evening at the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane. Mr. Charles Thorogood presided; and representative stage employees to the number of sixty-five were present from many of the metropolitan theatres and music halls. The concert commenced with a pianoforte solo by Mr. Harris. Songs were contributed by Mr. Harry Randall, Mr. A. Hales, Mr. J. Warner, Mr. Will Marriott, and Mr. Earnshaw. Mr. White gave a recitation. The Brothers Marriott gave a duet, and other songs were contributed by Messrs. G. T. Dalgarno, Gray, and Gouch. An enjoyable evening was spent, and votes of thanks were cordially given to Mrs. Childs, the manageress, and to those who had contributed to the concert. Messrs. Thomas, Wood, and Warner were complimented upon the arrangements they had made.

A general meeting of the members of the Carpenters' Branch, N.U.T.S.E., will be held on Sunday evening, at 8.30, in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane. This being the last meeting of the quarter, all members are urged to be present.

TYPHOID IN LINCOLN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I should be glad, if you have space, if you would insert this letter, with a view to reassuring managers and artistes about to visit Lincoln. The epidemic has run its course, and there are very few cases now, and those are entirely due to neglect and want. There is no difficulty in securing fresh water even in the most humble of dwellings.

We re-opened the theatre on Monday, and are doing well. In fact, the whole city is in a bright flourishing condition, and makes one wonder where "the plague-stricken city" referred to in so many papers "comes in."

Everything is done at the theatre to protect the health of the artistes from infection, and I am sure, speaking from experience, that no manager would regret bringing his company to Lincoln.—Yours faithfully,

DORA PRICE,
What a Woman Did Co.

Theatre Royal, Lincoln, March 23, 1905.

On Monday Messrs. Leonard Pagden and Lewis Gilbert's company opened at Poole's Opera House, Porth, in the modern society play, *A Woman of Impulse*. Mr. Pagden gives an excellent account of Sir Mathew West; Carl Navourac is effectively played by Mr. Lewis Gilbert; Sir George Langford has an able representative in Mr. W. Ruddle Brown; Mr. Jas. P. E. Hussey is decidedly humorous as Jack Jeffries; Doctor Bartlett is capitally portrayed by Mr. William Wallace; Miss Marie de Roos successfully plays the part of Lady Langford, and Miss Lina Nazeby as Mrs. Dudley, and Miss Katie Johnson as Bertha, are decidedly good.

Mr. Harrie K. Chambers, the American actor, has written a comedy called *A Case of Frenzied Finance*, the scenes of which are laid in the Hotel St. Regis, New York. The principal character is an energetic "bell boy" named Tom Dawson, who is full of plans for accumulating a fortune very quickly and without much exertion. The comedy will be produced in America in a few weeks by Mr. William A. Brady.

At Bow County Court, on Thursday, Miss Violet Russell brought an action against Mr. Clayton, the manager of a touring company, claiming five weeks' salary and 8s. travelling expenses. The plaintiff stated that she was engaged by defendant for the principal part in a pantomime of *Cinderella*, at a salary of £2 a week, but that after the first week she was told that she was not to continue in the part, but that she could have a position in the chorus at the same salary. She objected to being thus dismissed, but eventually had to return to London, the fare costing her 8s. 4d. She had been in the profession since childhood. She had played with Lord George Sanger, and had never had any trouble with him; he was a "dear old fellow—one of the best." The defendant declared that plaintiff was unsuitable for the part. After hearing further evidence, his Honour gave judgment for Miss Russell for £6 8s. 0d.

The erection of another playhouse is also shortly to be commenced. This also will be in Shaftesbury-avenue, and will be close to Mr. Frohman's new house. Plans are now being prepared, but have not yet been placed before the L.C.C.

Mr. Sprague has also drawn up the plans for two fresh theatres to be built in the Haymarket. The names of the promoters are at present a secret.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, March 15.—Miss Amelia Bingham is appearing at Wallack's Theatre in a modern comedy-drama, by Henri Dumay, entitled *Mademoiselle Marni*. The scenes are laid in Paris. Fabienne Marni, of the operatic stage, and Comte Raoul de Saverne, a lieutenant of artillery, are in love with each other. Raoul is engaged, however, to Claire, the daughter of the Baron de Saint Germain, and when the latter hears of Raoul's infatuation for the singer he causes him to be ordered to Africa on a dangerous mission. Whilst he is taking leave of Fabienne, Claire enters unceremoniously and tells Mdlle. Marni that Raoul is her promised husband. Fabienne is heart-broken, but she sends for the Baron and pleads for Raoul's recall, telling him of her love. The Baron, who is an evil person, tells her that it will be impossible for her to marry into any decent family, because of her illegitimate birth, and she is about to strike him with a riding-whip, when General Neuville, who is acquainted with the Baron's history, checks her with the cry, "He is your father!" After this revelation, Mdlle. Marni thirsts for revenge, not only on account of the Baron's treatment of her lover, but because she knows him now as the man who betrayed and deserted her mother. With the assistance of a leading financier she operates on the Stock Exchange, and contrives to bring the Baron to ruin. He begs for mercy, but Fabienne recites her mother's wrongs and gloats over his misfortune. In the end, however, a reconciliation is effected, just in time to save the Baron from suicide, and Raoul and Fabienne are reunited.

This is a very handsome production. Miss Bingham's gowns, as usual, arouse no little admiration, and her impersonation of Fabienne Marni evokes frequent demonstrations of approval. Mr. Frederick De Belleville gives an excellent representation of the Baron de Saint Germain, and Messrs. Henry Kolker, Frazer Coulter, and Max Freeman do well in prominent rôles.

A series of matinée performances of Henrik Ibsen's drama, *When We Dead Awake*, is being given at the Knickerbocker Theatre under the direction of Mr. Maurice Campbell. The play deals with the experience of an artist with a woman as mystical and imaginative and passionate as himself, and with another who is the representative of natural emotional womanhood. The cast is as follows:—Prof. Arnold Rubek, Mr. Frederick Lewis; Mrs. Maia Rubek, his wife, Miss Dorothy Donnelly; Inspector at the Baths, Mr. James H. Lewis; Ulfheim, Mr. Frank Losee; A Strange Lady, Miss Florence Kahn; A Sister of Mercy, Miss Evelyn Wood.

Miss Fritzi Scheff has made a greater success in *Boccaccio* than in any of the other revivals in which she has been seen lately at the Broadway Theatre. The "Cooper's Song" is encored repeatedly, just as it was in London when the opera was running at the Comedy Theatre in the early eighties. The company includes Messrs. Richie Ling, Wallace Brownlow, Louis Harrison, and Arthur Cunningham.

Miss Blanche Bates is appearing as Yo-San in *The Darling of the Gods* at the Academy of Music. This stirring drama was performed 348 times at the Belasco Theatre, and attracted large audiences up to the last night of its run. After touring the country from east to west, it is still going strong at one of the largest theatres in the metropolis.

Mr. A. L. Erlanger, who has just returned from a trip to London, has arranged for the American production of the Drury-lane pantomime, *The White Cat*, at the New Amsterdam Theatre, next autumn.

GUILDHALL ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

The orchestral concerts given by the Guildhall School at the City of London School, Victoria Embankment, are always interesting, and that of Wednesday last had some special features worthy of cordial commendation. Orchestral performances have long been recognised as extremely valuable, and the opening item, the Serenade in D (Op. 11) of Brahms, was both attractive and instructive, being carefully played and conducted with spirit by Dr. Cummings, who also paid the utmost attention to the orchestral accompaniments of the pianoforte concerto of Grieg, the solo part being charmingly rendered by Miss Elsie Church, who has been admirably trained by Mr. Baptiste Calkin, one of the most esteemed of the Guildhall professors. The young lady has already gained distinction as a pianist; and her rendering of the Allegro Moderato and the Adagio displayed her command of expression and style; while her mastery of the keyboard was shown in the animated presto finale, one of the brightest movements in the work of the Scandinavian composer. We must not overlook the ability of M. Georges Jacobi, who distinguished himself both as conductor and composer. The ballet music from *La Tzigane* was sparkling and melodious; and M. Jacobi has done nothing better than the "Danse Hongroise" and the "Scène de Fascination." The band was also entitled to praise. It was not quite free from reproach in accompanying Mr. Sydney Stern in the Prologue from *Pagliacci*, as its playing was somewhat too boisterous, all the more to be regretted as Mr. Stern has an excellent voice and sang extremely well. He has yet to remember the dramatic requirements of the prologue, which, apart from the stage, loses a portion of its interest. Miss Phyllis Stevenson, in the chanson from Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*, doubtfully translated as, "Gentle Dove, wherefore art thou clinging?" proved herself an accomplished vocalist, and executed neatly the difficult passages of the chanson. Another vocalist was Miss Nellie Major, who acquitted herself well in two songs by Woodforde-Finden, called respectively "Kashmiri Song" and "The Temple Bells." Miss Jenny Hyman, the accompanist, displayed her accustomed skill.

When, in 1899, Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton concluded his reminiscences of "The Birmingham Theatres," which he was then contributing to the *Birmingham Daily Mail*, he remarked that "some day, perhaps, some other theatre-lover would continue the tale." We are pleased to see that Mr. Pemberton himself is spared us to take up the thread, and the series of articles which he has resumed in the *Birmingham Daily Mail* of to-day cannot but give pleasure, both by their authenticity and the agreeable manner in which they are set down.

"A Man's Love," an adaptation from the Dutch of J. C. De Vos, by J. T. Grein and C. W. Jarvis will be played at an invitation performance given on Monday by Miss Boros, of the Royal National Theatre, Budapest, at the theatre of the Walsingham Club. The play is in three acts, and the cast will include Miss Dorothy Drake, Miss Bertie Brancka, Miss Boros, and Mr. Acton Bond.

At Ystrad County Court on Tuesday, before Judge Williams, Mr. John Mitcheson, theatrical agent, brought an action against Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton, lessees and managers of the Elswick Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for wages and commission. From the evidence, it appeared the plaintiff was engaged by the defendants as their advance agent for *When a Man Hates* Co., and in the ordinary course of his duties proceeded to Pentre last December, but owing to some misapprehension, defendants' company did not appear, for which they got compensation. The plaintiff therefore claimed wages and commission for the time he was detained at Pentre in compliance with defendants' instructions. In the end his Honour awarded Mr. Mitcheson £5 0s. 6d., the full amount claimed, with costs.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BRUSSELS, March 16.—This has been a week of revelry, and the Belgian Carnival, not having been too much spoilt by bad weather, has passed in the jolliest manner. La Monnaie has been crowded at its three masquerade balls, and so has the Alhambra. The operas being now most performed are *Hérodiade*, Massenet's fine piece, and his *Jongleur de Notre Dame*.

The Theatre du Parc has on the bills Maurice Donnay's clever play, *l'Escalade*, and the Molière gives *Electra*.

The Vaudeville's Carnival fare is *Tire au Flanc*, a farce of the usual type, and at the Alcazar *Chiffon* has made a decided hit.

The Alhambra is reviving the old melodramas, such as *La Bergère d'Ivry*, which succeeded to *Cartouche, King of Thieves*.

At the Olympia, *Madame l'Ordonnance* is being played to packed houses.

The Pole Nord is still the rendezvous of the "élite," who go merrily skating on real ice every day, morning, afternoon, and night. On Shrove Tuesday, the attendance was big, and the masks were plentiful. Fun was the order of the day. It was a jolly carnival on the ice.

The Circus Wulff continues to draw big houses. The programmes have always been carefully selected, and the attractions at the present time include the Gaetano Olloms, the Hadji Mohammed Ben Menadi Troupe, Mariska Recsey and her Russian hounds, the clever Sisters Randall in their triple jockey act, Tom Bibb, the funny clown, and Princess Yvonne de Mayrena, with her three Indian elephants.

GUILDHALL DRAMATIC STUDENTS.

The dramatic students of the Guildhall School, so admirably taught by Mr. Allen Beaumont, gave a capital performance in the theatre on Friday, March 17, attracting a very large audience. A triple bill introduced a comedietta, *Aunt Minerva*, by C. Tudor, *Barbara*, by Jerome K. Jerome, and the one-act comedy, *Why Women Weep*, by F. W. Broughton. In the first piece, ladies take the lead, and Miss Minerva was charmingly played by Miss Huntsman, a young lady who has won distinction at the School, and deservedly. A lady lecturer, Altiora, was cleverly represented by Miss Mabel E. Clapp, and Altiora's two disciples were well sustained by Miss Enid Rose and Miss Diana Spencer. Hearty commendation may also be given to Miss A. Castiglione, for her natural and humorous conception of the faithful servant Martha. In *Barbara*, Miss Ethel Gannon displayed remarkable ability. Indeed, if we had been told she was a professional performer it would have occasioned no surprise, she being so thoroughly excellent. Nor was Miss Nellie Lake much inferior, if any; Mr. J. L. Dale was quite up to the mark as Cecil, and the drollery of Mr. J. A. Ellerton, as Finnicum, evoked incessant merriment. In *Why Women Weep* Miss Ethel Gannon again distinguished herself greatly, and Miss Nellie Lake was almost equally satisfactory, while Mr. Ellerton, as the French waiter, Fritz, revelled in the drolleries of the part, and proved himself a genuine comic actor. The other gentlemen, Messrs. Dale and Jackson, displayed talent in their respective characters. The intervals between the acts were enlivened by the excellent pianoforte playing of Miss Jenny Hyman, who was heard in pieces of Smetana, Liszt, and Moszkowski, which she performed with great brilliancy. Mrs. Charles P. Smith, as usual, had charge of the young ladies, and the stage arrangements were admirable.

Mr. W. Clarkson will remove his business to 41 and 43, Wardour-street on Thursday. The profession will not be long in finding out the famous perruquier at his new address.

Everyone is talking of the lovely dresses worn by Mrs. Brown-Potter in *Du Barri*, at the Savoy. As the milliner's apprentice, she has a dainty dress of white silk muslin, with an ankle length skirt, trimmed with many little frills. With this frock she wears tan shoes and stockings, a cap of lace and muslin, and a small black silk apron. In the first act Mrs. Brown-Potter dons a beautiful costume of white gauze, with a wide white satin stripe, the petticoat trimmed with a deep frill and many little ruffles. The draperies of the skirt are bunched up in panier form on the hips, while the bodice is made with a long point in front, and elbow-sleeves finished with lace ruffles. A broad sash of pale blue satin ribbon, bordered with silk fringe, crosses from the right shoulder to the left side of the waist. In her hair Mrs. Brown-Potter wears a small wreath of roses, and on the skirt a large wreath of pink chiffon flowers of the same sort.

In the next act, in the bedchamber at Versailles, Mrs. Brown-Potter is seen in a loose robe of white soft silk, with large sleeves, embroidered with a design of daisies in gold. This wrapper is lined with pale green silk, and is worn over a *robe-du-nuit* of soft white silk muslin, accordion-pleated, and trimmed with lace. Gold slippers complete the *déshabille*. In the same act, a wonderful robe of pale pink satin, embroidered with gold, and garlanded with deep pink chiffon roses, is worn by Mrs. Potter, who has pink roses in her hair. In the third act an under-dress of rose-pink silk is exquisitely embroidered in gold and diamonds, and has a bunch of pink roses fastened on the corsage. Over this there is a sacque of rose du Barri velvet, very full over the hips, and made with a long train, bordered with roses and glittering with diamonds. The loose fronts of this over-dress are embroidered with green and gold leaves, and lined with ermine.

"Dick Whittington," at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, concluded its enormously successful three months' run on Saturday last, when every available inch of room was taken up by a highly demonstrative audience, which cheered its favourites with hearty gusto, and bestowed presents galore on each and all. Mr. Collingwood was presented by the artistes with a handsome oak cabinet and an illuminated address, illustrative of twenty pantomimes he has successfully produced erewhile, and which will make an ornate and a unique addition to the many similar tokens now adorning the vestibule of the Alexandra Theatre. Mr. Collingwood announced amid general acclamation that his next pantomime would be *Blue Beard*, for which Miss Minnie Jeffs is already engaged. Messrs. Will Letters, Barrett and Knowles, and the Misses Florrie Burns and Nelly Valentine have all done exceedingly well.

Madame Melba, having concluded a series of successful concerts in the large cities of the United States and Canada, leaves New York for England to-day (Saturday). At Nashville, where the series ended, she was presented by her company with a very handsome gold and silver laurel wreath, bearing the names of the cities visited, as well as those of the donors.

Miss Jane Jackson, an English actress, met with a serious accident in Paris on the 16th inst. She was getting out of a cab on the Boulevard Malsherbes when one of her goloshes slipped from her shoe, and she fell under the wheels of a cab, which passed over her. Miss Jackson, who was removed to her hotel, complained of internal pain, but her injuries, though serious, are not likely to prove fatal.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the Imperial Theatre, on Thursday evening, and witnessed Mr. Lewis Waller's performance of *King Henry the Fifth*.

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The Walls are covered with the World-renowned picture "Niagara" painted by the great artist Phillipoteau.
For the last eight or ten years Blackpool has been extending around and for miles south of the Colosseum in a marvellously rapid manner. Thousands of houses have been built and are occupied, and there has not been any place of Public Entertainment provided for the Masses of the People south of the Tower.
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The great Popularity of the Colosseum is shown by the fact that, although only partially occupied during a part of a Blackpool Season, upwards of 100,000 paid for Admission during the remaining part of the season.
Offers for the 1905 Season on Sharing Terms should be made to the Undersigned, who will furnish any further information.
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Man. Director, Mr. W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
Vacant Dates (in Term Time, no Dramas), May 8, 9, 10, and May 29, 30, 31.
Silence polite negative. Address as above.

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Communications re dates to Manager.

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Vacant Dates, April 17 (4 nights), May 15, 22, 29, and onwards. Apply to
CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-av., London, W.

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Address, Mr. J. W. WHITBREAD.
May 8 Unexpectedly Vacant.
Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

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The Premier Playhouse, First-Class Attractions Only. Address all communications, R. C. BUCHANAN, Man. Director. Tele. add., "Bookings, Glasgow."

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Vacant April 10, May 1, 8, 15, and 29, June 5 (and 12th Whit-Week), July 31 (August Bank Holiday), onwards.

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BARROW.—ROYALTY T. and OPERA HOUSE.
CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON.
Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, June 26 and July 3 and 10. Barrow, May 15, 29, June 19, onwards. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions. Consett, April 3 and 17, on. Re Dates, HUGH ROBERTSON, T.R., Jarrow.

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Vacant July 3, 10, and 17; September 4.
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LIVERPOOL. — SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. Manager and Secretary, Mr. JOHN GAFFNEY.—All communications re Dates should in Future be Addressed to F. W. WYNDHAM, Esq., Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE
Lessee and Manager, EDMUND TEARLE.
Vacant, June 12 (Opening Date), and Onwards.
Address,
EDMUND TEARLE, Spring Lodge, Fairfield, Liverpool.

MORECAMBE, ROYALTY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
General Manager, CHAS. M. JULIAN.
Vacant June 19, 26; July 17; August 28 (three nights), Sept. 11 and on.
First-class Attractions only.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN.

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Enlarged, Redecorated, Lighted throughout by Electricity. Upholstered by Dean and Co.
Weekly Matinées for County Visitors.
Now Booking 1905.
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Manager, Charles P. Cooke.
Vacant June 26, July 3, and August 14.
First-class Attraction only.
Silence a Courteous Negative.

OLDHAM, EMPIRE THEATRE,
The Premier Theatre,
Holding Capacity, £200.
Lighted throughout by Electricity.
Vacant dates, June 5, onwards.
All Communications to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

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Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr. THOMAS LUCAS, J.P.,
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Silence a polite negative.

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Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only. For Dates, apply, Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS.
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Actual Resident Population of Ramsgate over 30,000.
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Mr. CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. Tel. 6920 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Cock-eyed, London."

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Vacant Dates, April 17, May 1, Through Obliging Managers. Booking in Conjunction with Milton Bode, Esq. (9d. Journey from Chester).
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The Prettiest and most Popular Place of Amusement on the South-east Coast.
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Managers please address all communications to W. MARLOW, jun., Manager, as above.

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Good Pantomime Required for Jan. 8 and 15.
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Resident Partner, E. OSWALD BROOKS.
Immense Success under New, Up-to-Date Management.
None but Best Companies entertained.
Now Booking Spring, 1906.
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Open throughout the Year. Good Summer Season.
Vacant May 29, June 12, 19, July 24, Aug. 21, Sept. 25.

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Vacant
May 15, June 5 and 26 (weeks).

WAKEFIELD OPERA HOUSE. Vacant May 8, Share or Certainty, and Onwards, with Exceptions. Silence in all Cases a Polite Negative for Date Quoted. SHERWOOD and COMPANY, Opera House, Wakefield.

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Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre.
Success assured by energetic personal management.
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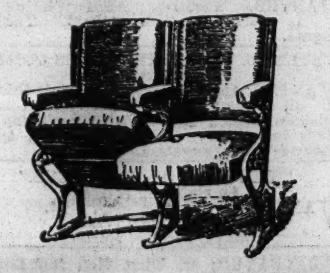

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WANTED, Companies for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 15, June 12, July 10, 17, 24, Aug. 21, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
June 5, 12, 26, Aug. 21, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 22, June 5, 12, 26, Aug. 21, 28, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
May 8, 29, June 5, 12, Aug. 14, 21, on.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, May 8, 29, June 5, 12.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
May 22, June 12, 19, 26, Aug. 7, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
June 12, 19, 26, Sept. 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
April 24, May 4, 22, 29, June 5, 12.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company, for
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Easter Week, April 24, May 4, 22, 29, June 5, 12.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant, May 1, 8.
TERRISS THEATRE,
April 17, May 1, 15, June 5.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Important Attractions for May 1, 8, 29, June 5.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
April 24, May 15, on.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
May 1, 15, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
May 8, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
May 8, on.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Vacant April 24, Aug. 7, onwards, with Exceptions.
Fast Booking Autumn.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant May 4, 11, Onwards, with Exceptions.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions for
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
April 24, May 8, Aug. 7, 14, on.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Musical Attractions for
May 29, June 5, 12, Aug. 14, 21.
STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA,
April 24, May 1, 22, 29, June 19, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Dramas, June 5-12.
Address, HERBERT VERE.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, N.
WANTED, Absolutely First-class Companies, May 15, June 12 (?), 19, Aug. 7. Address, F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.
WANTED, Absolutely First-class Companies, May 29, June 19, 26, Aug. 14. Address, F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.
WANTED, Absolutely First-class Companies, May 15, 22, June 5, 12, Aug. 7. Address, F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, Managing Director, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

DUMFRIES and DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Dumfries, April 10, and on; Dunfermline, April 24, and on. Address, W. E. POTTS, T. R., Dunfermline.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Proprietors, The WALSALL THEATRES CO., Ltd.
Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD.
Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphi., 9d.; Gal., 6d.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, First Vacant Dates, May 15, 22, and 29, June 5 and 12, August 7, 14, 28.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Musical Preferred,
Grand Theatre, Hull, April 17,
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, May 1, 8, 15, June 19, 26, Aug. 7, and various Autumn.
A. F. CROSS, P.O.W., Nuneaton.

WANTED, First-class Companies, P.O.W., NUNEATON,
May 1, 8, June 12, 19, 26, Aug. 14, 28, Sept. 4, 11, Oct. 2, 23, Dec. 4, 11.
A. F. CROSS.

MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, April 3 (3 or 4 nights). E. A. SMITH.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, three nights and one matinée, April 6, 17, May 11, Whit Week, onwards. Wire for April 6.
SEEBOLD, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, First-class Companies, April 24, Easter, May 8, 22, 29, and onwards. Now Booking Autumn. For terms, apply, P. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Proprietor, Court Theatre, Galway.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 22,
June 5, 12, and 19.
Share or Certainty.
Apply,
L. CARSON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

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WANTED, First-class Companies.

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant May 8, 15, June 12, 19, 26, July 3, 10.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant March 27 (3 nights), April 17, May 1, 8, 22.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 1 (3 nights), 15 (3 nights), 22, June 12.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant June 19, July 31, Aug. 14, Oct. 2.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant May 8, June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant April 3 (3 nights), 13 (3 nights), 17, 27 (3 nights).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant March 27, April 3 (3 nights), May 8, 15, 22.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant April 17, 24, May 1, 11 (3 nights), 15.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant April 6 (3 nights), May 8, 22, 29.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant April 3, 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
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Manor House, Hayes, Middlesex.

FOLKESTONE.
PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-Class Companies, May 1 (3 nights) (?), June 5, 19, July 3, 10, 17, 31, October 26 (3 nights), 30, on, with exceptions.
Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

Frank Macnaghten's Theatres.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS,
Vacant May 8 and 29, Once Nightly.
WANTED, also, Company, to play Twice Nightly, for the Inauguration of the New System, Whit Week. Vacant also June 19, July 31, Twice Nightly.
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE,
Vacant June 5 (Twice Nightly).
FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Palace Chambers, Lincoln

CORK OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions for week October 9.
Applications to Mr. JOHN HORGAN, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Companies, May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12 (?), also sundry Autumn. (See "Provincial Theatres page).
Address, J. EDWARD WHITTY, T. R., Batley.

GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-Class Company, for April 10, April 10.
Apply, Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS, T. R., Plymouth.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, Company, last three nights, April 17 week, one able to do Sacred Concert Preferred. Choir write. EDWARD MARRIS, Proprietor.

WANTED, June 26, all July, Sept. 18, Best Drama Must be new to Cardiff. Address, FRANK BATEMAN, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Drama or Comedy, April 10, 24, and May 1, on,
E. H. PAGE.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for King's Theatre, Walthamstow. "Darling of the Gods," No. 1 Company; will April 3 revert to the original One House Nightly System. Vacant April 10, 17, various, onwards.

WANTED, Big Attractions, April 10, May 1, Radcliffe; also April 24, May 1, 15, Chorley. SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Big Attractions, April 6 (3 Nights), April 10, Easter, and on. Good Variety Combination write for April 10. FRED L. CONNYNGHAME.

WANTED, Good Companies, April 3, May 8, onwards. W. H. DUNANT PHILLIPS, Gymnasium, Bordon Camp East Liss, Hants.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions, May 1, 22, 29, June 5, and Whit Week.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies for April 10, 17, May 15, and onwards.—Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Good Company, Easter Monday and Tuesday, for New Town Hall, High Wycombe. MANAGER, 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

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Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 17.
H. MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, Good Companies for April 10, 17, Easter, and Whit weeks, on. Now Booking autumn. Address, DAVID WILLIAMS.

WANTED, Important Attractions, for Queen's, Leeds, and Empire, Oldham. Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

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Capital, £155,000.

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NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, FALKIRK.
ALEXANDRA THEATRE, GREENOCK.
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.

The Bookings include all the Principal Drama, Musical, and Comedy Attractions.
Important.
Managers doing business with us at New Gaiety Theatre Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred. The Tivoli, re-christened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.

Address all communications to
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THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, May 22 and 29, Vacant, Musical Piece, Comedy or High-class Melodrama.
W. Morton.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, May 22, June 26, and July 10, Strong Drama.
W. Morton.

THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted
First-class Attractions for Weeks of May 1 8, and 22. Wire, to-day, Kelly, Crown T. Peckham; next week, Ealing Theatre, Ealing, W.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for April 17.
Apply,
Mr. Robert Arthur, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Company, April 17, for Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

HOWARD and WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for April 17, Glasgow.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, a No. 1 Pantomime Production, for Christmas, 1905.

Apply, William Peacock.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, (Musical Preferred),
April 6, 7, 8 (3 nights), May 11, 12, 13 (3 nights), and May 18, 19, 20 (3 nights).
Apply, William Peacock.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attractions, June 12 (Whit week) and Aug. 7; also Attractions May 8, June 12, 19, and 26, Aug. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 9, 23, Nov. 30, Dec. 4, 11.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

NEW AVENUE THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Good Company, April 3, Three or Six Nights, May 8, 15, 29, June 12, July 3, Kettering Feast. Frank Payne.

NEW ROYAL, KING'S LYNN.
WANTED, Good Company, Whit Monday, Tuesday Wednesday. Also at Grand Pavilion, Ventnor (same date).
J. Bannister Howard, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

WANTED, Good Attractions for April 10, May 1, on till Whit, then Aug. 7, on.

R. Addison, Limited.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 10 and April 22, Seven Nights, or 24th, Six Nights. Address, Gerald Harding.

TERMINUS HALL, LITTLEHAMPTON, SUSSEX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter and onwards, Whitsun and August Bank Holiday, Vacant Two or Three Nights.
G. E. Redman, Lessee and Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for April 10, 17.
Required, Big Attraction for April 24 (Easter).
Wire, Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, Good Companies, April 3 and 17, Pontypool, Treherbert, and Maesteg. April 10 and 17, Gloucester. Easter, Treherbert, Maesteg, and Pontypool. Poole, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Companies, Musical, Dramatic, or Comedy. Vacant April 10, 24 (Easter), and on. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Leading Attractions, May 8, 15. Terms to Rich. Waldon.

THEATRES ROYAL, BILSTON and WEDNESBURY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Bilston, May 15, June 5, 12, August 7, 14; Wednesbury, June 5, 12, August 7, 14. August Bank Holiday, both. Harry Battersby, T. R., Bilston.

GLOBE THEATRE, DEAL.
WANTED, Good Attractions, March 30, 31, April 1, April 6, 7, 8, Three Nights each.
John P. Fish, Manager.

SELWYN THEATRE, WISBECH.
WANTED, Good Musical Co., 3 nights, Easter, May 4, and on. Now Booking Autumn.
C. Gates, Proprietor.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity and every convenience. Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply Proprietor, Whitland.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, April 24, Wanted,
An Enormous Success Everywhere.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire for April 24, Wire.

James Bell,
Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, April 17, May 8, Sept. 11, 25.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 7, Oct. 2, 16, and various. Walter Melville, Standard T., E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Sept. 18, Oct. 2.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Aug. 14, and a few Autumn Dates, Xmas Vac. Fredk. Melville, Standard T., E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, April 17, May 29, June 12, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Frederick Melville's New Production.
WANTED, April 10, Aug. 28, Sept. 4.
Fredk. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, April 10, 17, June 5; gross receipts last three weeks exceed £1,330. Douglas Bruce, Standard T., London, E.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, April 3 (Scotland, North England).
Fred. Bulmer, Grand Theatre, Falkirk, N.B.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS,"
May 22, 29, June 5, Aug. 7 and 14, onwards.

Apply,
L. Carson, Keighley.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
"HEART OF A HERO,"
Sept. 25, and onwards.

Apply,
L. Carson, Keighley.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
"DRAMA OF LIFE,"
May 29, June 5 and 12, Aug. 7 and 14, and Oct. 16.

Apply,
L. Carson, Keighley.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 4, 18, Oct. 30, on, with exceptions,
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Weeks of July 10 and 17,
for this Powerful Attraction.
Wire, To-day, Kelly, Crown Theatre, Peckham; Next Week, Ealing Theatre, Ealing, W.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug 7, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, 16, 30, on.
"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
August 21, Sept. 4, 11, 18, Oct. 2, 9, 30.
Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.

MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARING O' THE GREEN."
Nov. 13 and 27, only Vacant Dates this year.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on.
Grand T., Newcastle,
March 27 (6 nights).

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS. RACKET?"
"MY SWEETHEART."
WANTED, April 17 (Wales), May 22, to follow Limerick, Whit Week, to precede Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, July 3, to follow Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Stone, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

Lyttleton's "AT WAR WITH THE WORLD"
WANTED, April 10, 17, Easter, onwards, with Exceptions. Everything Reliable.
Printing Always Ready. Geo. Lyttleton,
T. R. Maesteg; next, T. R., Pontypool.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, April 17, May 1, Aug. 7, Sept. 18.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Easter, between Nottingham and Bootle (Return); also May 8, 15, June 5, 19.
Edward Surrey, This, 110, Rusholme-road, Manchester; Next, Grand, Radcliffe.

FRANK BERTRAM'S COMPANY,
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Easter Week, also May 29.
Address,
Eugene Bertram, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, for "Her Fatal Past," the money-maker, Big Theatres, Oct. 23, Nov. 6, onwards; money turned away Saturday night, Rotherhithe. Congratulations this week at Royal West London. Wm. Bailey, delighted. Thanks to his management for extreme courtesies. Coms., T. E. Ward, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 8, 15, 22, 29, and June 12, Splendid Business Guaranteed with this Fine Musical Version, which is Boomed with the most Magnificent Display of Pictorial Printing ever used for this Marvellous Money-maker. Herbert Barrs, T. R., Wallsend-on-Tyne

"A VICTIM OF VILLAINY."
WANTED, June 12.
Walter Howe, O. H., Dudley, Six Nights.

WANTED, for "Life that Kills," May 29, June 5 and 12, Sept. 11, and on.
"Grip of Law," Easter, June 12, 19, 26.
"Bigamy," May 1, and few Spring and Autumn.
Fred Moule, Metropole Theatre, B'ham.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY
in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, Leading Theatres for April 24 (Easter),
Address,
Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, 22, Charing Cross, S.W.

"A LONDON ACTRESS."
A luxury to lovers of drama.—Liverpool Echo.
WANTED, June 5 and 12 (Whit week),
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
Miss Emma Litchfield as Hilda Mannering,
Supported by an excellent company.
Vacant June 5 and 12, August 7, on.
The piece is altogether superior to the usual run of melodrama.—Glasgow Herald.
First Vacant Date, June 5.
Stuart Cleveland, Theatre Royal, Batley (return).

"HIS MAJESTY'S SERVANT."
WANTED, owing to misunderstanding, April 24 (Easter), for "His Majesty's Servant," Mr. Lewis Waller's substantial success, with Complete Original Production, Scenery, Dresses, Armour, from Imperial Theatre, and Strong London Cast.
Address,
Henry Dundas, Fulham Theatre, London, S.W.

"THE TRAITOR."
E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Oct. 9, 16.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 20 (In Scotland), through transfer.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE,"
Max Goldberg's Triumph.
Dan. F. Roe and F. B. Woulfe's Company.
No Vacant Dates this Spring.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 7, and onwards. Bookings include nearly all the Best Drama Houses in the Kingdom. Communications, Roe and Woulfe, Queen's T., Gateshead.

THE OSMOND TEARLE REPERTOIRE.
WANTED, good Theatre for April 10, to follow T. R., Sheffield.

Wire, Montague,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

LIZZIE BOONE and FRED HAMMOND'S TOUR.
"MY SWEETHEART."
WANTED, April 24 (Easter), May 1, 8, 22, and on, for this ever-popular attraction.

Next, Opera House, Blackpool.

"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, May 8, 22, and Whit Week.
Mitchell and Belton,
Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for the Greatest Novelty on Tour.
Please Note.—William Morton, Esq., Alexandra, Hull, saw this big production, and immediately gave me two prime dates at equitable terms before first visit.
Vacant Autumn, with exceptions.
Sante. This, Darlington; Next, Seaham Harbour.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres, May 15 and 22, to follow Stockport and Ashton; also Sept. 11, 18, and 25,

Address,
Chas. M. Julian, Theatre Royal, Leicester (return).

A stirring drama of the true Drury Lane stamp.—London Daily Express.
"HEARTS ADRIFT."
WANTED, April 10 (South), only Vacant Spring Date. Fast Booking the Autumn and Spring, 1906.
Address, A. Bertram, Comedy Theatre, London.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
April 10, 17, 24, June 12.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION."
July 17, 31, Aug. 7, 28, Sept. 18.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"GREED OF GOLD."
Aug. 7, 14, 21, Sept. 11, Oct. 9.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, May 1, 8, and 29, for this Remarkable Attraction, onwards, with Exceptions. Summer and Autumn Dates are now being Booked.
J. H. Clyndes, Lyceum Theatre, Govan.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
WANTED, April 24, for the Acknowledged Success,
"MISS MISCHIEF,"
now in the
Twenty-second Week
of Tour.
Address,
Godfrey Lamplugh,
To-day, Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Next Week, Opera House, Buxton.

WANTED, for Miss Olga Nethersole and Company, in "Sapho," Good Theatre for Easter (April 24). Apply, H. Jalland, Grand T., Hull.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, April 24 (Easter).
Wire,
Frank Wilson, 26, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

"THE SINS OF A CITY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
April 17 (to follow Salford), 24.
Thirty-fifth Week of Present Tour.
Further Particulars see Companies' Page.
Victor Du Cane, Pavilion Theatre, London, E.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Big Theatres, April 17, May 8 and 22. Miss Edith Blande in Title-Rôle.

Harry Foxwell, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S COMPANY, "JUDY."
WANTED, May 1 (unexpectedly vacant), August Bank Holiday.
Address,
George Kirk, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, Theatres, June 12, Aug. 7, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, Miss Frances Delaval's Splendid Co. Enthusiastically received at Alex., Sheffield. 22nd month of Tour. Wire to-day, Sheffield; next, T. R., Macclesfield.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
72nd Week of Continuous Successful Tour,
First-class Company of Recognised Artistes, including Miss Dora Price as "The Woman."
WANTED, April 17 (must be Large Town), May 1, 8, 22, 29,
Whit-Week and onwards, with exceptions.
William A. Armour,
To-day, Star, Swansea; next, Metropole, Devonport.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant May 22, June 29 (3 nights), July 3, 10, 17, 24, Aug. 21, 28, Sept. 4, 11, and 18. Address,
J. W. Cordiner,
March 27, New Theatre, Cambridge.
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

MR. ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.

WANTED, for this Sterling Attraction, June 19 (between Jersey and London), July 17, Aug. 7 and 21, fourth year of tour; new plant of printing. Best theatres booked and re-booked. Grand T., Birmingham, March 27.

"THE GUILTY MAN."
"THE GUILTY MAN."
"THE GUILTY MAN."
WANTED, May 15, June 19, 26, July 10, 17, & 31.
James Hare,
New Theatre, Loughborough.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," May 1, 29, June 5, 12, 19, July 10, 17, 24.
Charles Clifford, Imperial Theatre, Newark.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, May 1. Wire, to-day,
Livesey, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
Next, Gaiety, Burnley.

"THE SWISS GIRL."
WANTED, Theatres, April 24, onwards.
L. Delaware, "St. Hubert," The Park, Highgate.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANY.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, April 10 (only vacant date this year), all Scenery carried; powerful company; Racehorses Toured and Paraded each day, with Jockeys in colours. F. G. Kimberley, Queen's, Gateshead; next, Queen's, Liverpool.

"THE DAYS OF CROMWELL."
An elaborate revival.
WANTED, Aug. 14, on.
Beaudin and Livesey,
Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

"BETRAYED; or, What Men call Love."
WANTED, May 1, June 5 and 12. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
Cecil Du Gue, Standard Theatre, E.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, May 15, 29, June 5.
Fred. Bulmer, Grand Theatre, Falkirk, N.B.

MISS NETTIE WARE'S TOURS.
WANTED, August Bank Holiday, and onwards, with Exceptions. "When Woman Hates," Vacant, August Bank Holiday, and onwards, with Exceptions. First-class Productions.
John B. Shinton, T. R., Middlesbrough.

"THE LUNATICS,"
by Nita Rae.
WANTED, Easter Week, April 24, May 1, 15.
Herbert Colley, 84, Melford-rd., Leytonstone, Essex.

"THE COAL KING."
WANTED, Autumn Dates, for Messrs. G. M. Polini and Lauderdale Maitland's London Company, with the intensely Human Drama, "The Coal King." Polini, 93, Penge-road, Anerley.

"QUEEN OF THE NIGHT."
WANTED, Theatres, May 15, June 12, Sept. 18, Oct. 9, Nov. 27. James Stillwell, Alexandra, Sheffield.

"THE DARLING OF THE GODS."
WANTED, No. 1 Theatre, April 3, South or Midlands (between London and Leicester).
J. Bannister Howard, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Pantomime, Season 1905-6, "Babes in the Wood," as produced at Grand Theatre, and run for Nine Weeks to Record Business.
Address, Geo. Davey, 76, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.

I.D.K. MINSTRELS.
WANTED, Theatres, Proved Money-Maker, Better than Musical Comedy.
Complete Evening's Entertainment.
Humourists, Vocalists, and Instrumentalists.
Comic Sketches.
Effective Printing.
March 27, week, O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Vacant April 10, week, precede T.R., Aldershot, onwards, with exceptions.
Address,
Mr. J. Herbert Jay, 10 & 11, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly.
Telephone 6534 Gerrard.

ARTISTES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Autumn Tours of Musical Comedies, Ladies, for Principal Parts, all must be young and pretty, and able to sing; also Solo Dancers, Character and Light Comedians, Stage-Managers, and Baritone Vocalists, latter must be young and of good appearance; also Chorus Ladies, young and pretty. Appointment by application to C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Artistes for Musical Comedy, Town and Tour. Must be Young, of Good Appearance, and Good Voice. Send full particulars to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233A, Regent-st, W.

WANTED, for "Soldiers of the Queen," Full Co., in all Lines, for 3 or 4 Special Weeks, Commencing about Easter. Absolute lowest terms, and refs. where unknown. Address, H. J. Snelson, Fleetwood.

WANTED, for Mr. Robert Arthur's Stock Seasons, Aberdeen and Dundee, commencing June 5, Artistes in all Lines, to communicate Lowest Terms, Photos, Previous Engagements, to F. Teale Lingham, Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Stock Musical Company, from May 1, Artistes who can Sing and Dance, Stage Manager, Chorus Ladies, and Dancers, to form Quartette, Opening Piece, "Gentleman Joe." No notice will be taken unless Lowest Summer Terms, Age, Height, Two Recent References, and Parts Played, are stated. Interviews, London. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for May 1, to Complete Stock Company, Opening Piece, "The Harbour Lights," Leading, Heavy, Character, Old Man, Juvenile, and Responsible Gentlemen, Low Comedian, and Chambermaid (must Sing and Dance), Stage-Manager, who is Conversant with the Adelphi and Drury-lane Plays. No notice will be taken unless Lowest Summer Terms, Age, Height, Two Recent References, and Parts Played are stated. Interviews, London. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen to complete cast of "Hoodman Blind," one week, April 3; also Child Actress or Boy, aged 14; those in Birmingham district preferred. Rehearse Aston next Tuesday. Lowest terms, particulars,
Arnold Bell, Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Heavy Juvenile Responsibles, &c. immediately, Refined Ladies and Gentlemen, Racecourse Scene, London. Houghton's Agency, 29, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, ten Ladies, by a First-Class Company; amateurs with good voices eligible. Apply to Box 1,373, "The Era."

WANTED, Artistes, Refined, Excellent Openings, Unknown Talent Tested, Placed. Correspondents wanted. London Critics write. "Amusement" (monthly) Office, 7, Whitefriars, E.C.

WANTED, Amateur, Lady or Gentleman, for Dramatic Tour, excellent opportunity for Tuition. Premium required. Salary from commencement. Mildred Vaughan, 36, Kenninghall road, Clapton, London, N.E.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," NO. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, a Young and Pretty Juvenile Lady, Sing a Little. Apply, with Photo., last Two References, and Particulars, to C. Watson Mill, T. R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for Special Week, Open Monday next, Rehearse to-day or Sunday, Ladies, for Lead and Heavy, Child Actress, Gents. for Heavies, Character, and Old Men, "A Sailor's Wife." Wire, Lowest Inclusive, James Elphinstone, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, for Tour, Rehearse in London Tuesday, and open following Monday, Tall, Heavy Lady, and Aristocratic Old Gentleman to double. State age, height, lowest terms, and enclose photo. E. Bertram, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, good Responsible Couple, Lady capable of Lead, used to Ghost Business, Gentleman to Parade, must be young and steady. Full particulars in first letter to W. Clark, jun., Phantascope, Fair Ground, Charlestown, Pendleton, Manchester.

"THE POOR MUST LIVE."
WANTED, Gentleman for Small Parts and Assistant Stage Management, must have good Wardrobe. Address applications, which must be accompanied by photos., to Grand Theatre, Nelson.

WANTED, Chambermaid, and Sisters (to Play Boys), all Sing and Dance. Photo., Age, Height, Terms, Faulkner, 29, Butler-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, at once, Child Actress, 14, to look 10 Full Particulars.—J. A. Whitehouse, Drill Hall, Winsford.

WANTED, Good Responsible Man, to Double, Baggage Man, Play Small Parts. Rehearse Monday. Wire, Moseley, Theatre Royal, Crook.

WANTED, Really Refined Mezzo, Baritone, and Tenor for High-class Operetta. Reply by letter only to F. W., 17, Manchester-street, W.C.

WANTED, a Lady, for Tableau Sketch, height not to exceed 5ft. 3in. To Rehearse March 22. No previous experience necessary.
Apply, stating Salary expected, and Photo, to
J. Lopez,
3, Mytton-street, Hulme, Manchester.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.
WANTED, Young, Attractive Baritone, and Principal Lady, Sing and Dance. Sail April. Fares paid. Silence polite negative. Weathersby's Agency, 10, Garrick-street, W.C.

WANTED, for High-Class Romantic Drama, Lady or Gentleman, who will advance about £100, repaid as per arrangement; 12 months' tour guaranteed. Talented Amateur entertained. Salary. Particulars, letter only, to Advertiser, 30, Hereford-street, North Walsall.

WANTED, Light Baritone Vocalist, for Permanent Engagement, Coloured Gentleman preferred. Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Dancing Teacher, to Train Ballet. State Terms. Also required, Good Baritone, for Concert Party. Box 1,378, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, two experienced Acrobatic Dancers, with Good Voices, age 18 to 22. Letters, naming height and references, to Box 1,379 "The Era."

WANTED, Good Baritone, for Al Fresco, Whitsun, could open Easter indoors, young, with Smart Appearance, Read Music and used to Sketches. State Salary and Experience.
Box 1,386, "The Era."

WANTED, Twenty Young and Good-looking Ballet Dancers, at once, for Scandinavia. Guise, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton Hill.

WANTED, a Lady for First-Class Comedy Act for Halls, one with Speciality; must be able to patter. State lowest. W. Sydney, 110, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Lady (six years in Provinces) is ready to pay substantial premium to anyone procuring her a good Engagement in Town, not Musical Comedy. Write, with full particulars, in first instance, Care of Mademoiselle, 46, Messina avenue, South Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Madge Western, Dis., Lead, Heavies, Musical Comedy, or Drama. Principal Contralto. Address, 9, Brackenbury-road, East Finchley, N.

WANTED, by Lady, to join Sketch Artistes, Drama and Comedy. Good Abilities, Song Writer and Vocalist. Pattie Bellwood, 180, Elderfield-road, Lower Clapton.

WANTED, by Advertiser (good, useful Amateur), sound business experience, Engagement for Parts, or Assist Management. Bonus, or would give services for a time. Box 1,387, "The Era."

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Tenor (Good), Engagement, with Al Fresco Party, Young and Steady, Large Répertoire. Replies, Box 1,358, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Tenor Vocalist, Engagement for Season, Play Piano or Portable. Address, G. Tempest, Bull Hotel, Upper Warlingham, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Tenor Vocalist, Disengaged Easter; can also accept Summer, Opera, Oratorio, Classical Songs. Box 1,292, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Easter Pantomime.
WANTED, for Two Special Weeks, Commencing Easter Monday, Rehearse Darlington, April 17, Full Co., including a First-class Quartette of Dancers, and Twenty Fine Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime, "Cinderella." Principals, in Answering, please State also if Disengaged next Christmas, as, if Suitable, can also Arrange for "Cinderella," to be Produced at Opera House, Cheltenham, next Christmas. Lowest Spring Terms, References, and Photos., if not Known, to John Walters, Theatre Royal, Blackpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artiste, with own Brushes. Terms, Particulars, to Edward Surrey, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery; High-class Work and Good Joinery at Reasonable Prices; Studio Capable of Largest Contracts. Add., Charles Sayer, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

AVENUE O. HOUSE and T.R., SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Known, Scenic Studios, Principal Artist, J. Hemingway. Estimates and Models for Productions. Theatres and Music Halls Stocked. Scenery stored. Fit-ups to order,
All communications, J. Hemingway.

WANTED, Engagement or Special Contract, for High Class Scenery. Stock or Production. London, Provincial, and Continental Experience. J. I. Keith, 170, Hampton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Educated, experienced, absolutely reliable, clever Scenic Artist, and Good Worker. Invites Offers, Town or Country. Combine Assistant Management or Secretarial duties. Highest refs. Box 1,357, "The Era."

WANTED, Contracts or Resident by Mr. Ernest Jones, Fifteen Years' Special, O. U. D. S., Henry Dundas, &c. "The Era" Office, or S.A.A.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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WANTED, Young Assistant Manager, combine part, Easter Tour, preference to one able to take Financial Interest. Good Baritone and Ladies for Small parts. Box 1,383, "The Era."

WANTED, Assistant Manager for a London Music Hall. Apply by Letter, with Qualifications. State if now Employed, or when and where last employed Address, Box 1,384, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Gentleman, assist Management Entertainment Bureau, London. Refined, Energetic, Pushing, Tactful. Full details, or call. "Amusement," 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C.

WANTED, Real Live Agent, one who can boom a Sensational Show, and, if required, use the sticks. State terms, and give last two references. J. Beverley, Post Office, Bedford.

WANTED, Smart Youth, Shorthand, Typewriter (Hammond) to travel with Music Hall artiste. One with little experience of variety agency business preferred. Send full particulars, F. H., 83, Belgrave-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Arrangements can be made to receive an Acting Manager at popular Theatre, adjacent to Metropolis, to invest £250 to £1,000. Box 1,393, "The Era."

WANTED, Known Mr. Will Spearman (late Islington Empire), open for General Management or Management. Care of "The Era."

WANTED, E. Walpole, Advance Agent, at Liberty to Boom any class of Entertainment. Experienced. Refs. Wire, 253, Vauxhall Bridge-rd.

WANTED, thoroughly practical Billposter, to travel with Circus Agent, must be sober, energetic, and reliable. Good wages.
Address, Geo. Dobler, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Smart Young Billposter and High Window Biller, with own Sticks. Fred Lewis, Circus Agent, c/o Post Office, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by Accountant Manager (six theatres, also touring companies), Pupil Assistant, with view to Management. Full instruction in all Accounts and Acting-management; guaranteed salaried post if proficient in twelve months or less. Premium required 200 guineas. Small salary to commence. Full particulars of experience (if any) to Accountant T., c/o Osmond and Co., 25, Lawrence-lane, E.C.

WANTED, Position as Manager of Good Theatre, Music Hall, or Pier Pavilion, where Good Management and First-class Catering would be likely to warrant Remunerative Results. Would consider Salary, Percentage, or Acquirement of Lease. Advertiser world-renowned as Performer and Producer. Box 1,373, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. Frank Egerton, Manager to Mr. Patrick Collins (late of Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent), at Liberty from April 10, to Accept a Similar Position, in Variety Theatre, Touring Company, Winter Gardens, Pier, Aquarium, &c. Would Share with First-class in or outdoor Entertainment. Frank Egerton, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Business Manager and Wife (Juvenile Lead), are willing to Invest in Well-established Company in return for Long Comfortable Engagement. References exchanged. Apply Box 1,370, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Frank V. Huntley, Advance Agent, thoroughly experienced and reliable. Address, 45, Ouse-road, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Electrician, Joseph Parker (late Royal Court and Prince's Theatres, Liverpool, &c.), is at present at Liberty, having just finished the Installing of Two Large Installations of Light and Power. Competent in all Branches of Stage Lighting and Effects. 18, Dorothy-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by J. B. Chandler, as Carpenter, Resident or Tour, through Closing Theatre. References, Mr. Rowland Stewart, T. R., Bournemouth. Chandler, 19, Haviland-road, Boscombe.

WANTED, Known, Master Carpenter, at Liberty, for Good Tour only; Wife as Wardrobe Mistress. B. W., 29, Wellington-st., Strand.

WANTED, Engagement as Bill Inspector, 5½ years at Terriss, Rotherhithe. Write Melville, Standard, Shoreditch, for Testimonial. Geo. Cordaroy, 309, Lower-road, S.E.

WANTED, Advance Agents and others to know that Ted South, formerly Bill Inspector, Zoo Hippodrome, Glasgow, is now Manager for Fox and Co., Billposters, 30, Paul-street, Taunton.

WANTED, an Engagement, any capacity, from June 19, till end of Season. Tours, Lectures, Management, or otherwise. Well experienced in all branches. Can deposit premium, or would finance a good Pierrot Troupe. Address, McAskell, Comic Conjurer, 120, Roker-avenue, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement, Wardrobe Master, Costumier, Cut, Make, and Renovate. London Experience. Highest Refs. Resident, Tour, or Abroad. Address, Box 1371, "The Era" Office,

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

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WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Maidstone, First-Class Musical Director to supply an Orchestra of Eight competent Performers. Can open at once. Those wishing to introduce ladies save stamps. Comfortable Engagement to the man who can do his work. Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, Conductor, Play Piano and First Violin; also Flute and Piccolo, must be good Artistes, young, strictly sober, good appearance, April 20, on, sixteen performances weekly. Lowest terms, references. ADOLF SEEBOLD, Worthing.

WANTED, for Ladies' Orchestra, Two Violins, One Pianist, 'Cello, and Double Bass. Write to F., 760, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, for Bosco's Circus, Tenting Ireland, Good Solo Cornet, terms 35s. per week; Euphonium, Bombardon, Horn, and Drums, terms 32s. 6d.; 6 months' comfortable engagement to steady men. Address, SAM JONES, Leader, 129, Linaker-street, Southport. Many thanks to J. Lloyd, E. Hanneford, H. Lyons, and J. Manley for offers.

WANTED, Two Cornets, for Permanent Staff, 7th Rifle Brigade, age under 30; former service counts towards pension.
GUEST, 58, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Good Bassoon Player,
for one of
His Majesty's Staff Bands.
Apply,
RUDALL, CARTE, and Co.,
23, Berners-street,
London, W.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Double Bass, to Open Monday next, Permanency, if Suitable. Terms and References, Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

WANTED, for Dunoon Castle Gardens and Pavilion, from June 17 till September 16, the following First-class Instrumentalists :—
First Bassoon;
First Violin, to Combine Trombone or Euphonium;
Viola, to Combine Clarionet.
Apply, with terms and references, to RICHARD DAEBLITZ, 244, West Princes-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Bombardon, Trombone, must read in Bass and Treble Cleff, to Tent Ireland.
BANDMASTER, Marquis Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, Harpist (Good), that can Play Piano; also for Summer Season (Al Fresco), Commence Whitsun; also First-class Violinist, must be Young and Smart, Vocalists Preferred. Lowest Terms, J. BEANLAND, 6, Palace-av., Bridlington.

WANTED, Experienced Harpist, for Seaside, able to Play Second Violin, String Band, Good Appearance Essential. Box 1,362, "The Era."

WANTED, for Special Week, April 3, Opera, Flute and Piccolo, and Double Drums, with Effects. H. MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, a good Orchestral Pianist, able to Sing; also First and Second Cornets, Trombones, Double Basses, Clarionets, Flutes, for London and Provinces. VOORZANGER, 61, Warwick-road, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, to Open April 3, at Hull, a First-class Double Drummer, with Tympani and Effects. Must give Good References. State lowest terms. T. GERALD MORTON, The Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, Portable Player, for Pitching, Shares, three only; sing preferred. We have portable. DUNN, 33, Little Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Mandolinist and Guitarists, Ladies and Gentlemen, must Read Music. Box 1,363, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists, to Form Small Orchestra, 5½ Hours Daily (Three Performances), Uniform, Easter, Whitsuntide, and Season. Lowest Terms and References to F. H. JEPSON, Musical Director, The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Small, Select, Ladies' Orchestra Three Performances Daily, about Fourteen Weeks' Engagement. Terms and Particulars to F. H. JEPSON, 83, Bloomfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Full Band for Tenting, Leader or other Musician, to Combine Violin, to commence April 24. SILVANI, Circus, Mullingar, Ireland.

WANTED, Small Hungarian Band for Easter, Whitsuntide, and Season. Particulars to F. H. JEPSON, 83, Bloomfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers :—

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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

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WANTED, Engagement, by Celian Kottaun, Musical Director, any Business. Highest References. 16, Duckett-road, Harringay, N.

WANTED, by Mus. Dir., Violin, Engagement, Highest Refs., Dramatic or Variety Business. SMITH, 39, Grant-street, St. Helens.

WANTED, by Conductor or Leader, an Engagement. Good Refs. Late Cheltenham Orchestra. J. SWIFT, 1, St. Luke's-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Musical Director, as Pianist or Accompanist (Combine Viola), Composer and Arranger. Box 1,359, "The Era."

WANTED, by Leader, or First Violin, Engagement, thoroughly Experienced, Reliable. JAS. HEAP, 23, Perth-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Peter Conroy, Musical Director (Pianist, Composer, and Arranger), at Liberty. First-class References. 18, Offley-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Musical Director, late of Royal Standard Music Hall, Pimlico, Engagement. Address, 184a, Ladbroke-grove, Notting Hill, W.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Summer Engagement (Pianist and Harpist), any Business. SINCLAIR, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Conductor or First Violin, Engagement, Theatre or Seaside. Splendid Orchestra or Reed Band provided. Give First-Class Concert, &c. JAMES HECKER, 305, Lower Broughton-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Leader (First Violin and Soloist), First or Second Violin, and Viola (three young ladies), engagement.
RADFORD, Devonshire-road, Bexhill.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Combining Piano, Summer Engagement, Former Seasons, First Violin and Accompanist, Pier Pavilions. VIOLINIST, 15, Prospero-rd., Highgate-hill, N.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Violin, combine Viola, and also by Trombone, combine Euphonium. Apply, R. DOUGHERTY, Grand Theatre, Falkirk, Scotland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Violin, Experienced, Engagement, in London or Provinces. Good Refs. Address, E. B., 17, Little York-st., Bethnal Green.

WANTED, by Violinist, Young, Sit., in Theatre or Hall, would Deputise, can open at once. Address, 20, Colverstone-crescent, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin or Viola, any Business. Write or Wire, KIRKMAN, 127, Shrewsbury-street, Brookes' Bar, Manchester.

WANTED, by a First-Rate Violinist, Engagement.
WILLIAM ALMON, 1, Bushwood-rd., Kew Gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Seaside, Violin or Viola; Experienced.
J. GAMGEE, 91, Tachbrook-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, by Cornet (Young, German), an Engagement, or Violin, now Disengaged. Good References. L. W., 6, Alma-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, Theatre or Variety, through Closing, Dis. Easter Mon. Excellent Refs. R. TRIPP, T. R., Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet and Bass, Ladies.
LILIAN SMITH, 18, Churchgate, Stockport.

WANTED, by Cornet or Second Violin, Engagement, late Rushbury Tour. GEORGE STEELE, c/o McKim, 167, Graeme-st., Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engt., Disengaged, well up in Variety Business, Excellent Refs. A. G. WILSON, 323, Wandsworth-bridge-rd., Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, First or Second. Good References. Now Dis. G. BAKER, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate, Kent.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Clarionettist, Military or Orchestral, thoroughly Experienced. Good refs. E. WATTS, 7, Barratt-street, Southport.

WANTED, by Clarionet, B flat, First or Second, also String Bass, Engagement, long Militia Training Preferred, Experienced. CLARIONET, c/o Mr. GEO. BARHAM, Abbott's Langley, Hertfordshire.

WANTED, Engagement, or any Business, as Clarionet. Experienced and competent. Address, J. HEATH, 34, Farlton-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, through Closing, Double Bass. B. H., 50, Clifton-rd., Peckham. Also First Violin, I. W.; both Experienced Men.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Good, Young Man, Engagement, would Play in Ladies' Orchestra, or even Play one in a Bar. Box 1,360, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement or Deputising.—Apply, "BASSIST," 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Trombonist (Good Tenor), Open now for Engagements. Write, ORCHESTRAL, 3, Exon-street, East-street, Old Kent-road.

WANTED, by Trombone, Re-engagement, Used to Variety and Theatre Business. Write, TROMBONE, 27, Nunhead-green, S.E.

WANTED, by Trombonist (Season or Permanent Engagement, thoroughly experienced all lines. Smart and steady. D. S., c/o Fernhead, 21, Arnott-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Cornet, and E flat Horn, Experienced.
JAMES MARTIN, 550, Green-street, Upton Park.

WANTED, by a French Horn Player, Summer Engagement, Reference, Mr. Dan Godfrey, Municipal Orchestra, Bournemouth. BELTRANIS, 78, Commercial-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello.
Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-rd.

WANTED, Wanted, by 'Cellist, Engagement.
Address, G., 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist.
'CELLO,
11, Clarendon-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement, date of Liberty, May 20. ARTHUR DELMOTTE, Carl Rosa Co., Glasgow.

WANTED, by Viola or Violin (combining Euphonium), Engagement. Good references.
TOM WILKS, Sybil Cottage, Bristol-rd., Gloucester.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by Oboe, Cor Anglais. Date of liberty, June 1. LEON DANDOIS, Carl Rosa Opera, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17), Engagement. Undoubtedly talented harpist.—Bath Herald. MAUD GRUNDY, 49, Haverstock-hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Florence Maye, L.R.A.M., Solo and Orchestral Harpist, at Liberty for Easter. Also Piano Accompaniments. 8, Blomfield-street, W.

WANTED, by First-class Flute and Piccolo (Soloist), Engagement in Good Orchestra. A. KING, 115, Verney-road, Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo Soloist, Summer Engt., Steady and Reliable. Best Refs. BARSOTTI, Carl Rosa Opera Co., Glasgow.

WANTED, by Lady Flautist, Engagement; experienced. Could join at once.
B. PRATT, Park-street, Chatteris, Cambs.

WANTED, by First-class Flute and Piccolo, Summer Engagement. Address, FLAUTIST, 41, Medway-street, Leicester.

WANTED, by Pianoforte Soloist and Accompanist, Summer Engagements. At Liberty from May 15. J. W. KNIGHT, c/o Moody-Manners Opera Co., Royal, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engt., Easter Week, Highest Credentials. ROGERS, R.A.M., Haydn House, Wyeverne-road, Cathays, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Pianist, Re-engagement, or as Bass, any Business. Miss L. DEVERE, 13, Clarendon-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, by First-Class Pianist, Re-engagement, any business; self or Orchestral; combine Cornet; young. CAMPBELL, Theatre, Hebburn.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Youth 16, as Pianist, Used to Variety. Address, FRED GRIMSHAW, 23, White-street, Seedley, Manchester.

WANTED, Engt., as Double Drums, through Closing. Present Engt. 2 Years. Competent, Steady. Dis. Easter Mon. STRONG, T. R., Glouc.

WANTED, by Orchestral Drummer, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall preferred. Lib. April 1. Good refs. DRUMS, 1, Essex-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement, all effects, good references.
Apply, BLEACKLEY, Waterloo-street, Bolton.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement, Experienced, any Business. Good References. F. MCCROHAN, 31, De Laune-street, Kennington-park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Drums, and all Effects, Engagement, Open Mon. First-class Experience. BRIGHTWELL, c/o Smith, 174, New City-rd., Glasgow.

STRING BAND,
1ST C.B.
ROYAL FUSILIERS
(City of London Regiment),
Scarlet, facings Blue.
Full Strength, Twenty-four Performers.
Conductor, Mr. H. J. Parker.
WANTED, Known, this Fine Band may be engaged for Public or Private Performances, at a particularly Low Fee, or Sharing Terms.
A Remarkable Success.

Any further offers for Easter must be received by March 31.

Particulars, Photo, &c., upon application.
Headquarters, Pond-street, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, the Original Blue Austrian Band open to Good Offers.
CONDUCTOR, 53, Philpot-street, Stepney, London.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Prof. Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-street, S.E.

WANTED, by Rosabel Ladies' Orchestra, (Conductress Miss Rose Telfer), Summer Season Engagement. 10, German-place, Brighton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Well-known Band, Engagement at end of London Season; for Large High-class Seaside Hotel, or Pavilion; Handsome Uniforms. Solo Instrumentalists. Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 22, Crewdson-rd, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, an Efficient Orchestra, of Eight Performers, is Open for Engagement, for Season or Permanency, Consisting of Two Violins, Viola, Flute and Piccolo, Clarionet, Cornet, Bass, and Piano.

Apply, Box 1,367, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Herr Benck's Orchestra, at Liberty, for Piers, &c., &c. Specimen Programmes Forwarded. Manager, A. T. MITCHELL, 21, High-rd, Chiswick, W.

ANGLO-ITALIAN BAND.
Conductor, Signor Rabottini.
WANTED, Known, this Famous Band Military or String, in Handsome Uniforms, can now be Engaged for Exhibitions, High-class Seaside Engagements, Flower Shows, &c. Highest Testimonials. Apply by Letter. Latest Great Success with London County Council, and at Royal Albert Hall, &c. F. P. RABOTTINI, 157, Blythe-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, Engagements, for a well-known Italian Military Band, 10 in Number, or more, 12 Years' Experience as Musical Conductor, Varied Répertoire, Exhibitions, Bazaars, &c., in Bersaglieri's Uniforms. Address, Signor UGO NESPOLI, Musical Director of the Royal Italian Circus, Oxford Circus, London, W.

WANTED, Known, T. Bateson's Orchestra, concluded Successful Three Months, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy. This week, Co-operative Hall, Crewe; next, Music Hall, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement by Smart Family Band, Experienced in Dramatic and Variety, any Business. TYRRELL, 146, Southampton-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, good offers for Maitland Lacey's Orchestra (any number), for Summer Season. Extensive Repertoire. All communications MAITLAND LACEY, Musical Director, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagements by the Kensington Excelsior String Orchestra, five to fifteen performers. Hotels, Garden Parties, Seaside Exhibitions. CONDUCTOR, 8, Kingwood-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following :—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London;" 'Phone, 9,827, Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel., 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for King Ohmy's Grand Circus Season, which will commence April 10, at Southport. The Talent of the Earth are invited to write at once. Address, KING OHMY CIRCUS, Bolton.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, DARTFORD.
WANTED, for the above, April 3, onwards, First-Class Novelties (not aerial). Refined Variety, Lady Rider, any acts suitable for the arena. Address, T. G. TRANSFIELD, Hippodrome, Dartford.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, Specialities and Animal Acts of every Description, must be Novel and First-Class, Funny Comedians, must be Refined.
Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, April 24, for Six Months' Tour, Lady and Gentlemen Equestrians, with or without own Horses; Acrobats; Bar and Trapeze Performers; Musical, Singing, Talking, and Knockabout Clowns; in fact, anything and everything that can be done in a Tenting Circus. SILVANI, Circus, Mullingar, Ireland.

TUDOR'S HIPPODROME,
BLYTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, Known, all engaged for Monday, March 27, to be in time for 12 o'clock Practice. No excuse. W. TUDOR.

WANTED, Artistes, Imperial Hippodrome, Belfast, in all Lines, for April 24; those new to Belfast preferred. Bosco, Circus, Belfast.

WANTED, for Lloyd's Circus, talent of all kinds for my Tour, from Easter Monday, Singing and other Clowns; must be good riders; Double-handed Musicians, Double Drums, Tentmaster, &c. Direct P.O., Waterford.

WANTED, Startling Sensational Aërial Attractions, Special Novelties, Cyclists, Gymnasts, and every kind of Draw for Fêtes, on June 12, 13, 20, and 28, July 3 and 6, August 7 and 29, and other Dates. Send Specimen Picture Poster, Lowest Terms Daily (Railway Fares Paid from London), permanent address, to MONTGOMERY, World-renowned Fête Provider, 51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, Good Acts of Every Description, suitable for Ring, for April 24. Sensational and Startling Numbers write in.
Bosco, Circus, Belfast.

WANTED, few more Acts, to Complete Company, Ring and Stage; also Grooms, Tentmen, HARRY LYONS, Circus, Claremorris, co. Mayo.

WANTED, Four Girls, with Knowledge of Trick Cycling,
to Join Well-known Troupe.
Apply, stating Tricks, to
Box 1,369,
"The Era."

WANTED, for Mr. John Leopold's "NEW FRIVOLITY" COMPANY,
a Good Tumbler.
Also Top Mount.
Apply, JOHN ELLERY, Theatre, Leith.

WANTED, Young Lady Gymnast, or Girl over 16, for First-class Troupe. Send Full Particulars, Everything Found. Box 1,365, "The Era."

WANTED, by Understander, Herculean Balancer, about 9st.; must be under 20 years, amateur preferred. Letters, Box 1,385, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Juggler, Smart Girl, for Juggling, one with little knowledge preferred. Full particulars, Box 1,347, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Youth, Good Tumbler and Knockabout; long Engagement. Tricks, terms, and particulars, to L. B., 334, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers, for Abroad, to join well-known troupe. Full particulars,
Address, DORIAN, Hippodrome, Preston.

WANTED, for April 1, a Sober, Reliable Groom, for an Animal Act, German preferred; long, comfortable shop. Apply, L. JENSEN, 24, Valmar-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

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WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, only Vacancies this year May 8, 15, June 12, Oct. 16, Nov. 6, 20, and Dec. 4. Always a Sure Draw. Communications to L. JENSEN, Proprietor Ella's Lions. Week March 27, Metropole, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Gingero, with his Marvellous Troupe of Performing Bulls, Goats, Sheep, and Dog. Lib., Mar. 27, Success, Circus, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Harlan and Rollison, Musical Act, Algie's Hippodrome, Carlisle, April 3, Palace, Blackpool, Vacant April 10 and 17.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Vacant, April 10, on account of Regent, Salford, Cancelling. We are not barred for Manchester now. The Villions, Comedy Acrobatic Cyclists, and the only Lady performing Twenty-five Pirouette Somersaults in Succession. Vacant, April 10, One Week.
Wire,
Pavilion, Newcastle.
Next Week at Alhambra, Hull.

Open for Summer Galas.

WANTED, April 3 and 10, by the Two Dominos (Clown and Donkey). Second week, Circus, Hull. After Sunday, 16, Springfield, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, and the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality on the Revolving Globe, also La Belle Tosca, Charming Wire Expert. Vacant April. Address, 36 Bridge-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Summer Season, for Three Dizars, Acrobats; Cora Trevella, Tight Wire; Tom Hall, Clown; and Dog and Monkey. County Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, by Rozel, Sensational Speciality Act, March 27, April 3 and 10, also Galas. 6, Carrington-road, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Percy True, Wire Act, at Liberty, Own Apparatus, First-class Act. Lowest terms, 106, Cromwell-road, Kensington.

WANTED.—John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist, Finishes to-night, Two Weeks, Circus, Hull. Monday next, Royal Theatre of Varieties, Warrington. At Liberty April 3, and for Fêtes, Easter. JOHN IRWIN, 144, High-street, Deptford, London.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, March 27, April 3. Wire, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Delamere Trio, Comedy Equilibrists, April 24, also May 1, 8, and 15. Communications, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Monday next, by W. Salmon, Musical Cyclist, Palace Aberdare, Vacant March 27. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Joe Hastings, famous Jumper, Liberty Nov. Thanks Captain Scott and others for offers; have definitely settled with Fossett.

WANTED, Dates for Electric Lighting Plant.
W. REYNOLDS,
Engineer, Bedford.

WANTED, Engagements, Balloon Ascents, Parachute Descents, Airship Flights, &c. SPENCER BROS., LTD., 45B, Aberdeen-pk., Highbury.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE.
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.
WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two Clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Letters, Next Week, 1, Fairbourne-rd., Levenshulme, Manchester. Variety Artistes Wanted, April 20 to 25, inclusive, for Watering Place, Lancashire. Lowest Terms. Silence Respectful Negative.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, April 24, May 1, 8, all Lines, for Combinations, Lancashire. Send Pictorials. ANDREWS, 1, Upper Duke-st., Manchester.

WANTED, for Elswick Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Variety Artistes, all Lines, or First-class Combinations, Share or Certainty, for April 3 and onwards. Wire, ADELSTONE AND METCALFE, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, for
Monday next,
for Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.
and
Lyceum Theatre, Pentre.

Artistes must Play Both Houses Same Night.
We provide Brougham.

Wire, SAM DUCKWORTH,
Theatre, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager,
WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
GREENOCK.
Lessee and Manager,
H. L. SKIVINGTON.
WANTED, Comedy Star Artistes, for Immediate Dates. Nothing too Big.

Al Fresco Pavilions, Summer, 1905.
WANTED, Good Comedy Artistes, Tenors, Soubrettes, Comedians, and Novelties. State lowest terms for two and four weeks. Also open dates. Photos if possible Address, LESLIE AGENCY, Manchester, S.E. Fannie Newman, Bert Dansen, Guy Drury, please write.

WANTED, Twenty-two Al Fresco Artistes, Comedians, Vocalists, and Five for Band, all work White, Six Months' Run, must be Refined. Apply with Fullest Particulars to E. H. WILLIAMS, Famous Merrie Men, Rhyl. Sole Permit Holder. Rent £180. 9th Year. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, Social Week, March 27. Also Child Actress. Lowest terms. ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, April 3 and 10. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness, Quote Lowest; Hall small.

ROYAL MARGATE MINSTRELS, 35th SEASON.
WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for above Troupe, Harp, Violin, &c.; also Vocalists; no fancy salaries, but low and sure. Season commences May 27, ending Sept. 30; good amateurs may write in. Apply, stating terms, UNCLE BONES, Margate.

CENTRAL PIER, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for Good Friday, Saturday, and following week; also from Monday, July 17, to middle September. Lowest terms, photos, and lithos, to
E. HILL, Manager.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, April 24, May 22, June 5; Good Freak wanted April 3. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes and Specialities all Lines. Lowest terms, complete lists, Lithos, stamp. F. WARD, 324, Kennington-road. 2,787, Hop.

WANTED, for Royal Albert Hall, Jarrow-on-Tyne, First-Class Artistes for April 3, 10, and onwards.—Write, THOMPSON, 72, High-street, East Wallsend.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for April 3, 10, 17, Big Specialities, on Share or Salary.
HUGH DEMPSEY, Empire, Oxford.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for Mdlle. Sidroi, Bruce and Ross, Kavados, The Floradora Girls, Caselli and James, Vernon's Bioscope, Flo Melville, and Neuberti, Canine Hippodrome. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate. Rehearsal 12 o'clock, Monday. Mdlle. Roze's Dogs, Frank Gee, Nora Beverley, Animated Sovereigns, Bob Pearson, Lily Linder, Frank Marney, Harry Gold, Parlats. Attractions require Theatre Royal, Margate, April 3. Shares or salary. HARRY GOLD, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Artistes and Performances, Acrobats, Double Turns for Whit and August Bank Holiday Weeks. Posters, Lithos, and lowest terms to W. and J. WILDER, 29, Gt. Francis-st., Birmingham. Rozells, send address, important.

WANTED, First-Class Artistes and Big Tops for Present and Future Dates. Those on my books keep me posted. It pays you, you know that. Big Booking at Glasgow and Greenock, &c.
FRED NEIMAN,
Empire, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Young, Smart Artistes, for Concert Parties, both indoor and Al Fresco; also Specialities for single weeks; must be highly refined or useless. Full particulars (photos, stamped for return), SIDNEY LEIGHTON, Oak Mount, Hall Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artistes of every Description, for Scotland and the North of England.
SAPHRINI'S Agency, 5, King-street, Glasgow.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
All communications to Burns's Agency only.
WANTED, Known, Call Monday, March 27, Alec Aubrey, Mdlle. De Vena, Charles Cooray, Oakleyand James, Charles James, Burns's Bioscope, George Macintosh, Bert Lytton, Nancy Renshaw. Signed, H. BURNS, General Manager. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." Telephone, 0231.

TIVOLI MUSIC HALL, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietors, Councillors HALL and SWEENEY.
Business Manager, HARRY BURNS.
WANTED, Known, all communications, including Bill Matter, Engagements, &c., to be addressed to Harry Burns only, Burns' Agency, Empress, Hartlepool. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." Telephone, 0,231. Open weekly with the highest class of talent obtainable. Booked in conjunction with North Tour. Bill matter 14 clear days imperative, as per Clause 6. Signed, H. BURNS, Business Manager.

WANTED, Stars, for April 3, 10, 24; also for July 10, 17, 24; Piers, Pavilions, Pantomimes, &c.; Good Top Liner for One Night, April 21 (Good Friday). GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1,949 Hop.

PALACE THEATRE, ABERDARE.
WANTED, April 3, onward, Stars and Specialities of all Descriptions, Comedians, Serios, Acrobats, Knockabouts, &c., &c.
WILL GREGORY,
General Manager.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Turns, for Café Chantant, March 27 and onwards. Apply, by letter only, BRAMMELL, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, April 3, on, Stars in all Lines. Lowest and List of Bookings to
W. FORD,
40, King-street, Lancaster.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, BOLTON.
WANTED, Star Turns in all Lines, at once, and for future Dates. A big Turn required April 3. Useful Circus Artistes write at once. Nothing too big. Note, over 2,000 people turned away last Wednesday at Ohmy's Benefit. King Ohmy is now, and for ever will be the talk of Bolton.

WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, and Specialities, March 27, and April 3, onwards.
State Lowest Terms, Bookings, &c.
I can place you.
JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool. Telegrams "Merriment," Telephone 2076 Royal.
Representative JESSE BURTON, Esq.
Waiting to hear from Breton Troupe, and Jackson and May.

The Glasgow Syndicate Halls,
TIVOLI and QUEEN'S Variety Theatres,
GLASGOW.
One Performance Nightly at Both.
WANTED, Brilliant Comedy Turns of all Kinds. Star Comedians, Funny Double Acts, Comediennes, Tricky Sketches, and Novelties of every Description, only turns capable of working Two Halls Nightly can be Booked. Bill Matter Two Weeks in Advance is Imperative.
S. KING ALEXANDER,
General Manager.
Head Office, Tivoli Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Refined Turns, Musical and otherwise, suitable Animated Photographs, long tour, commencing Philharmonic Hall, Southampton, Easter; last tour twelve months.
HUMPHREYS, 51, Salt-lane, Salisbury.

WANTED, Speciality and other Turns, for April 10, Lyceum, Eccles. Apply by letter, stating absolute Lowest Terms, OSCAR LUCK, 66, Doddington-grove, Kennington Park, London, S.E. Silence a polite negative pro. tem.

WANTED, Speciality Turns, those doing two acts preferred. Must be new to Pentre and Ton-y-Pandy. April 3, 10. Wire lowest, CARL and CARR, Theatre, Neath. Letters, Theatre, Abertillery.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates.

Wanted, a £250 Attraction, for Easter Week.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.
Grovinis, Rappo and Ella, Wire Address.

WANTED, Talent, for Galas, Whit Week and July and August. Caterer, for the Third Time, Peel Park, Bradford. Caterer, for the Second Time, Saltburn Galas. Appointed Caterer to the Pontypool Park Fêtes, and all the Principal Galas.

Lithos. and Lowest,
JAMES FIONI,
The Leading Fête and Gala
Caterer,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON.
Sole Owners, FREDERIC MONTI and Co.
General Manager, W. J. MACKAY.
WANTED, for April 3, and on, Variety Talent of every Description. No Commission stopped. W. J. MACKAY, as above.

To be Seen only by Appointment.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Top Liners,
Centre and Bottom of Bill.
Address, DREW BAYLEY, Variety Agent,
109, Eglinton-street, Glasgow.

BIJOU EMPIRE,
HULL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Tops, Bottoms, and Middle. Anything that can Draw can be Booked.
All communications,
FRED THORNE, General Manager.

WANTED, for Pier Pavilion, Ryde, Variety Concert Parties During Season; Strong Attraction for August Bank Holiday. LEONARD TAYLER, Secretary.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Variety Combinations, for April 3, 10, and 17.

JAS. ANDERSON, Manager.

WANTED, Complete Ghost Show, on Sharing terms, for Large Hall, seats 800, Central Position. Two Performances Nightly, and Good Business done. Apply, BURGOYNE, Benson's Hall, Grimsby.

WANTED, Good, Dashing Serio and Dancer, Specialities, Suitable for Picture Show; also Operator, with Up-to-date Films, one having "Trip to the Sun" or "Battle of Mukden" Films Preferred, One Week, Open April 3 (Midlands). Absolute lowest Terms, CINEMATOGR, Post Office, Fareham, Hants.

WANTED, Amateurs, Comedians, for Refined Seaside Resort, Youth, Good Appearance Essential. Good Experience for Beginners. Sketches and Pantomimes Played. Commence June. Premium required, returned in Salary. Age, height, répertoire of Songs, Box 1,329, "The Era."

WANTED, for Summer Season (Al Fresco), Commencing Whitsuntide, Smart Comedian, must be Young, Good Voice and Appearance. Lowest Terms, J. BEANLAND, 6, Palace-avenue, Bridlington.

HESS' AGENCY.
WANTED, Pupils, Best Tuition, for Best Songs. Engagements waiting for Talent. Call or Write. Big Advantages to Aspirants. Moderate Fees. G. HESS, 71, Warner-rd., Camberwell-green, S.E.

WANTED, Strong Athletic Girls at once. Apply, Stage Door, Duchess Palace, Balham, Tuesday, 11 a.m., MADAME ROMA. Immediate work. Age 18-22.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

Telephone, 288.

Telegrams, "Zalva, Scarboro'."

Geo. Zalva's Agency,

Residential Office,

The Hippodrome,

Scarborough.

WANTED, Easter Week, onwards, the

biggest

and

best

of

Talent

in

all

Lines.

Give Full List of Bookings, and quote

Absolute Lowest Terms.

Geo. Zalva's Agency,

The Hippodrome,

Scarboro'.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.

WANTED, April 3, 10, and onward.
Star Comedians,
Big Specialities,
Refined Musical Acts, &c.

Call,
Monday, March 27:—
Dayton Troupe of Acrobats,
Marion Edwards,
Fasola,
Nellie Elder,
The Jetneys,
Vance Bros.,
Lester and Rayer,
Harry Grey.

Rehearsal at 2 o'clock.

WANTED, two or three Young Girls, who can sing, dance, and tumble a little, and willing to improve; long Engagement, good Home, everything found. Terms, particulars, and photos (which will be returned). Address, L. B., 334, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, an Up-to-Date Display of Animated Pictures, Cinématograph, and Operator to find own Gas, and give about an Hour's Show each Evening. State Name of Machine, List of Films shown, and Terms. Tour to follow if Suitable. All Fares Paid after joining. J. Beverley, Post Office, Bedford.

WANTED, Good Bioscope Operators, none but Reliable and Experienced Operators need apply. Write Quick. Address, Rockett, 56, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Managers of Piers, &c., to Note that T. Arthur Russell, 38, Sackville-street, London, W., has the pick of the Best Artistes and Concert Parties, and can quote Exceptionally Low Terms. Single Artistes or Entire Parties supplied.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Lovell, the Favourite, "the" Male Impersonator, just concluded Livermore Tour. Monday next, Empire, Bridgwater. Offers accepted for April 3, 10, and 17. Wire after Sunday, Empire, Bridgwater.

WANTED, Known, Jessie D'Hiver, Charming Serio, and Champion Lady Top-boot Dancer, at Lib. Mon. next. Wire, People's T., Abergavenny.

WANTED, Known, Gracie Bard, Character and Coon, will be at Liberty Monday and on. This, Poole's T., Pontypool. (See "Cards.")

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Powerful Vocalist. Great Success, Barrasford Tour, Second Time in Seven Months. Only Vacant Dates until October May 1, 8, and 15. This, Alhambra, Hull; next, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Graceful Grace Compton, "a singer of sensible songs," Vacant Mon. Wire, 92, Grosvenor-street, All Saint's, Manchester.

WANTED, by Grosvenor Sisters (Three), Operatic Vocalists, Mar. 27, April 3. Finish Successful Panto. To-night, T. R., Barnsley. Perm. Address, 39 Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, by Parez (Three Sisters), Fine Handbell Ringers, and Refined, Splendid Musical Act, a Few Dates. Wire for Monday. 32, Mill-lane, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff Marvel, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes, searched from head to feet, Conjurers' Methods Impossible, an athlete dressed as an athlete. The only Act in this line that has not been copied or exposed. Fifteenth week of Scotch Tour. Mind you, the Fifteenth week. Refer John Henry Cooke, Esq., Edinburgh, Ernest Sheldon, Esq., Dundee, The Royal Imperial Pictures Co., Aberdeen, and the Managers of all the leading Concert Halls. I conclude April 1, and open April 3 at Hippodrome, Dewsbury. I am vacant April 10, and a few odd dates only; Booked sclid 1906. All communications to Town Hall, Alyth, N.B.

Don't forget; this is a big Top of the Bill Sensation, with splendid Lithos, Refined, Sensational; suitable for Pier, Ring, or Stage.

WANTED, Kardoc, the Champion Handcuff King and Jail Breaker, free April 3, 24. Tuesday next, Special Engagement at Windsor Castle; April 10, Theatre, Dover; April 17, Hippo., Dartford. Fourth Engagement with Mr. Transfield. Thanks to Brien M'Cullough, Esq., Kilburn, for Present above my salary on Saturday last. All letters and wires to new address, 17, Clifton-gardens, Chiswick, London.

WANTED, by Albert Morrow, the Magic Man, April 3 and 10, an Original Act by an Original Artist, Big Hit at Theatre Royal Blyth, last week. Address all communications, Morrow, care of McKenzie, 52 West-port, Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement from Whit, by Principal Baritone and Lightning Clay Modeller (to Double). Offers to
Reginald Cooper,
27th, Athenæum, Lancaster.

WANTED, Summer Dates by Chas. Wood, Unique Chapeauist, Entertainer, Comic and Dramatic Vocalist, Reciter, &c. This, Lyceum, Stafford; next, Theatre, Swindon.

WANTED, Known, Dolf, the Vocal Trickster, Enormous Hit, Second Week, Standard, Pimlico, and settled Two Returns this year, Rapidly Booking in Town. Thanks for congratulations; more next week.

WANTED, April 3, by Mountford, Magical Novelty Act; finishing 14 weeks' panto. This, Grand, Chorley; Monday, Royal, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, Harry Tomlinson, Vocal Comedian, at Lib. for Al Fresco. Refs., Photos., &c. This, E., Wigan; next, E., Hull.

WANTED, by James Brady, Star Comic, March 27, April 3, 24, Success Certain. 3, Oakfield-place, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by Hyam Good (late Fred Davis, Screaming Nigger Act. Wire, 10, Washington-terrace, Deering-street, Nottingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Woodward, Actor Vocalist, Vacant Monday. Wire, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Monday, through obliging Manager, Ernie Leech, Singing Vent., Phenomenal Success, Empire, York. Wire, Wire

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WANTED, by Vosper, the Master Necromancer and Mimic, Monday next, also April 3. Address, Myrtle Cottage, Awsworth, Notts.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, Grotesque Comedian, with his Comedy Chair and Table Act, Two Distinct Turns. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Harry Jennings, Comedian and Dancer, Liberty Monday. Wire Manhattan, Ballybough-rd, Dublin. After Saturday, 56, Buccleuch-st, Glasgow.

WANTED, by E. J. Wilkes, and Dog, Monday next; also April 3-10. Empire, York, till Sat.; after, 37, Saville-st., S. Shields.

WANTED Known, Dawson Dewick, Comedian, opened for one week with W. B. Broadhead, Esq., Queen's Park, Hippo., Mar. 13. Engaged for the Tour for Five Years after the first night. Booking fast. Address next week, Métropole Music Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, J. H. Bowman, Humourist, Vocalist, Dancer, Liberty March 27, April 10. Wires, Hippo, Wakefield, or 20, Wood-street, Wigan.

WANTED, by Harry Leaton, Refined Comedian and Vocalist, Big Voice, Good Songs, Monday next. Sure Success. Wire, Palace, Swansea.

WANTED, Monday, April 3 and 10, by Hoffman, the Master Wizard. Coms., 64, George st, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, and April 3, by Arthur Moss, the favourite Baritone; also open for good Al Fresco; fine voice. Wire, 144, Bloxwich-road, Walsall

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WANTED, March 27, by Gillin, Ventriloquist. Finish to-night, Park Palace. Wire, 39, Gloucester-street, Liverpool. After Mon., Gillin, ventriloquist, Rotherham.

WANTED, Monday next, and April 3, by Gulliver, Novelty Ventriloquist, First-class Act, uproarious fun and applause. Always successful. Beautifully costumed, and smart Act altogether. Address, Dearngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Rex Carvell, Vent., Mimic, &c., two acts, and Alma Dora, Comedienne and Dancer. 44, Somers-st., Southsea.

WANTED, Known, Vacant April 3 and 10, the Danvils (George and May), in their Vocal Scenas and Artistically Rendered Illustrated Songs, Geo. Russell, Laughing Comedian, Two Acts, Great Success, Manchester, and Hippo., Preston. Thanks W. B. Broadhead, Esq., for 21 Weeks' Contracts. Monday, March 27, Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, April 3 and 10, by the Great Kyoto, also May Geraldine. Monday, Palace, Aberdeen. Wire. See advert., back page.

WANTED, Monday, also April 10, Walter Gurney, Comedian, Lily Mason, Serio. Pav., Altrincham. After Sat., 37, Berwick-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Lee and Arden (Phil and Lily), Comedy Duettists and Duologue Artistes. Wire, 2, Gladstone-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Comedians, Original Comic Sketch, "Farmer's First Riding Lesson," introducing the famous performing and wrestling Donkey; also Acrobatic and High Leaping Goat, big speciality for Fêtes and Galas, Stage or Ring. Liberty Monday. Permanent address, 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Allan and Austin, Eccentric Patter Comedians, Vacant April 3, 10, 17, Wales or near. 102, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Atkins and Clamp, at Liberty March 27 and onwards, with exceptions. Our business comprises Solos on English Concertinas, Mandolines, American Banjo, Zylophone, Sleigh Bells, &c. Permanent address, 40, Chadwick-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Mouing and Mooney, Real Coloured Knockabout and Character Comedians, Original and Refined, at Liberty April 10; also Easter Week. All Communications to C. Price, 151, Hartney-st., Walton Breck, Liverpool.

WANTED, April 3 and 10, by the Boultons and Mdlle. Bartenelli. Two first-class Acts. Eastbourne Society, March 22, says:—Mdlle. Bartenelli, the novel contortionist, in her marvellous entertainment on the golden column, excites both wonder and admiration, and Mr. Fred Boulton is a typical emperor of pantomime, and he works hard, and scores highly in his character songs, stories, and conundrums. Eastbourne Gazette says:—There are good specialities, of which Mdlle. Bartenelli is the most remarkable. To say she is constructed of indiarubber only faintly describes the extraordinary contortions of limbs and muscle which signalise her wonderful feats on the golden column. Vacant April 3 and 10. This, Pier, Eastbourne. Next, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, by Signor Mori's Italian Operatic Trio, Engagements. Write, Palace, Halifax. Free from April 1.

WANTED, by The St. Johns, Musical Patter and Dance Artistes, April 10 and 17. Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, by Tom Hall's Nippers, Dog and Monkey, Monday next and April 3. All right again. County Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, Pier Managers and Others at Summer Resorts to Note.—Mr. C. W. Poole can arrange for Dates in May, June, and July for either of his Right Up-to-Date Myrioramas, with Big Variety Co. and Band, on Share, Rental, or Certainty. Can give Two Performances Daily. These Entertainments are now Scoring Hugely, and can be seen by appointment. Thoroughly Up-to-Date in every respect, and will be kept so, Poole's Artistes Working Day and Night to this end.
Address, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

WANTED, immediate Dates for the Undoubted Novelty Sketch of the Season, "The Statue in the Square," produced with conspicuous success at the Palace, Blackpool, last week. Everything carried. Booked at sight for later dates by a powerful syndicate. Wire or write, Worden, Lynnhurst, S. S., Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next, by Tatters Troupe, Military Sketch, "Fun in Siberia; or, McGinty's Troubles while on Sentry Go with the Cossack and Russian Bear. 22, Lower Byrom-st., Manchester.

WANTED, April 3, by the Driscoll and Beattie Comedy Sketch Co., through being Barred Gaiety, Birmingham. Empire, Ardwick, M'chester.

WANTED, Known, Joe Pauletti, Acrobatic Cyclist, will shortly appear in New Eccentric Act. Originator of the Running Vault on the Back Wheel. New Trick in Preparation, Turning Somersault in the Air on a Single Wheel. Liberty Christmas, Cat and Speciality. Next, Grand, Blackpool.

WANTED, few Summer Dates Vacant, Lieut. Albini, the Famous London Society Entertainer, and his Latest Wonder, the Mysterious Lady in Black, can be Performed on a Lawn, High-class Novelty; also the Latest Improved Magic Kettle, Introduced by Lieut. Albini, Two Ladies, and Assistant. For Terms and Dates, Tom Shaw, or, 41, Torriano-avenue, London, N.W.

WANTED, April 3, by Chard's Dog Circus,

Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, March 27, onwards, Dahomey Warriors (12 in Number), Successes, Crystal Palace, &c., Managers Delighted. Director, Northern Star Agency, Kendal.

WANTED, Bookings for Payne's Biophotoscopes. Book the above, and secure the Latest Pictures. Address, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey.

WANTED, Engagements May and June only, for Royal Imperial Pictures Co.,
Superb Display of Latest Wonders.
Also George W. Walker,
the Famous Entertainer,
in his Song Scena, "Heroes in Humble Life."
All coms. to George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Reduced Prices. The Walturdaw Company, Limited, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the largest and smartest lady's Troupe in Europe. Great Electric Spectacle, including the Masterpiece of Training,
"The Goalkeeper."
Applause, Roars, Yells, Encored again and again. Grand Finale, Electrically Illuminated Spectacle, "Over the Garden Wall."

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This is better than anything ever attempted. Not only children, but full-grown adults.

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WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, &c., for Cardiff and Bristol; also Space to Let, for Side Shows, Stalls, Games (Automatics), Penny Slot Machines &c.; for the World's Fair and Carnival, Castle-street, Bristol, all under Cover, Commencing March 30. Shares or Rental. Write or Wire, Capt. Medecia, 31, St. Mary-street, Cardiff; after Monday, 27th, address, World's Fair, Castle-street, Bristol

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WANTED, good Novelties, with Paintings. Wire for Monday, General Buller here Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Marwood, 20, Old Market-street, Bristol.

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WANTED, good Novelty for New Booth, must have good flash, able to door, to commence on April 19, 1905, on shares or salary; also Girl used to dancing on front of show, and to help in waggon work, own dresses, on salary. Apply, J. Mansell, Showman, Freedom of Opinion, Barrow Hill, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, Monday and onwards, Shares or rent. Castini, Human Ostrich, here. F. Mordaunt, Exhibition, 181, Overgate, Dundee.

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WANTED, by Lecturer (Vocalist) or Doorsman, Engagement, with First-class Show, Gentlemanly, Experienced, late Taylor's Electrograph, &c. P.O., Pontypridd.

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For 1905.

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FLORADORA GIRLS, Great Hit, "Rival Sweethearts," Tivoli, Leeds. Monday, Circus, Rochdale. Offers Invited for Panto.

FLORIZELL, Novel Contortionist, Gymnast, on her Aerial Crystal Platform, for Galas. Lib., Whitsun. 72, Queen's-rd., Liverpool.

FORD, MISS RAY, Refined Comedienne. Next week, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees.

FORD and HANSON, American Musical Millionaires. Hippodrome, Preston, or Midland Hotel, Hull.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company. Drawing big houses, Hippo., Coventry. Monday, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOSTER, G. W., "An Eccentric Personage." This and Next Week, Empire, Dublin.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAY MOODIE, piccolo soloist, Hippo., Hastings. April 3, Palace, Northampton. Vac. April 10.

FREDRICKS, CARL, and YA PYN KETO FAMILY, Oriental Magicians. Until Wed., Met. T., Abertillery; Sat., T., Ebbw Vale.

FREELAND, MR. FRANK, Opera House, Workington.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-av., Queen's-pk., Ldn., W.

FRIDKIN'S, BORIS, COSSACK TROUPE, Operatic Singers, and Acrobatic Dancers. Metropole, Gateshead.

GANNON, NELLIE, Brilliant Success, Pal., Croydon. HARRY WRIGHT cheered to the Echo. Monday, Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

GARRICK, MR. GUS, Living Post-Cards. Hippodrome, Wigan.

GELDER, VAN, and LI-LI, Magicians and Wonder Workers. Liberty April 17, 24. Perm. add., 95, Miall-street, Radford, Notts.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast. New Act, "In Cupid's Garden." Continental Tour.

GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. Park Palace, Liverpool. "Me Hat's Off."

GLADSTONE, IDA, Finished Panto. Thanks C. Chard for Offer next Christmas; have Settled. March 27, Rochdale.

GLOBE, GEORGE, Comedian. That's All. Vacant March 27, April 6. Offers invited. 8, Rumford-street, Oxford-street, Manchester.

GOLD, HARRY, Animated Song Sheet. Also Latest Success, "Cloudland." Own Company, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

GRANADAS, LOS, Electrifying Bounders, Permanent, 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

GRANTLEY, CHARLES, Comedian and Mimic of Stars. Vacant Monday; also April 10. 47, Teneriffe-street, Manchester.

GRAY, MR. GEORGE. "The Fighting Parson," Address, care of "The Era" Office.

GREGORY, WILL, General Manager, Palace T., Aberdare. Booking Good Numbers, April 3, onward.

GROSVENOR SISTERS (THREE), Operatic Vocalists, T. R., Barnsley. Vacant March 27, April 3. 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

GUYONS, THE, Sketch "His One Great Sin." Vacant May 22, 29, and on, with exceptions. Address, Cambridge T., Spennymoor.

HAIG and NOVEL, Hip., Manchester, Great Success. Monday, Royal Oldham. To follow Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, April 3, On.

HALL, CLIFTON, Versatile Comedian, Liberty Monday next and April 3. Wire 156, Gaythorpe-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

HARCOURT, FRED, March 27, Empire, Dudley.

HARDY, the American Blondin, "King of the High Rope." Address, Niagara Villa, Doggett-rd., Catford, S.E.

HARLAN and ROLLISON, a Musical Act. Algie's Hippodrome, Carlisle. April 3, Palace, Blackpool. Free April 10 and 17.

HARMONY FOUR, THE (T. C. Bergeron, F. M. Barrett, Edw. Hughes, Alex. Ferguson). Address, Lyceum, London.

HARRIS and WORTH, Comedians. Empire, Wolverhampton.

HART and CO. Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Ardville-rd., Brixton, S.W. Tele., 116, Brixton.

HARVEY, JIMMY, Comedian, World's Champion Dancer, back from America, Hunting for Pictures. Watch.

HAYDEE'S Electric Mannikin Theatre, Hippodrome, Brighton. March 27, Empire, Bristol. See other Advert.

HEATON, PROF. TED, and SACHA, Greatest Swimming Act Before the Public. Perm., 24, Alton-road, Newsham Park, Liverpool.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius and Concertina Soloist. Successful as ever. Monday, Parthenon, Liverpool.

HENDERSON and STANLEY QUARTETTE, Eccentric and Acrobatic Mus. Act, at Liberty. 50, Shepherd-street, Bury, Lancs.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR. Barnard's, Chatham.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. Chelsea Palace. R. Warner.

HESS and LISBON, Inimitable Comic Speciality. Monday, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

HILL, ROWLAND, Ye Dame (Fourteenth Week). Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

HILTON, FLORENCE, London's Star Male Impersonator. Latest Song, by Charles Deane. Return Monday. Empire, Dudley.

HILTON and HILTON, Comedy Bar Performers. This, Oxford, Middlesboro'; next, Grand, Bolton.

HINTON and WOOTON, Permanent address, 6, Market-place, Willenhall, Staffs.

HOLLOWAY, MISS KATIE, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. For dates apply, 36, Brunswick-rd., Liverpool.

HOOK, WALTER W., 1454 Consecutive Show, New Century Pictures. Victoria Hall, Sunderland.

HOPE, F., Sensational Trick Cyclist. Tremendous Success, T., Widnes. Vacant, March 27 and April 10.

HOWARD, WILSON, and CARLOTTA ANSON, Comedy Duologue, "My Military Mash. Required, April 10. T. R., Norwich.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE), Empire Theatre, Newcastle.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Dancers. At Lib. Monday, also April 10, on. 2, Alton-road, Roehampton, London, S.W.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist; and DE LIL, Illusionist. Vacant April 17, May 1, 15. Monday, Metropole, Manchester.

HULME, TOM, Comedian; also ELSIE KEDWARDS, Comedienne and Dancer. Opera House, Kidderminster. Liberty April 3, 10.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur. Address, care of "The Era."

HUR, BEN, Acme of Athletes. Mirth, Music, Mystery, Muscle. Vacant Mar. 27, April 3. 687, Commercial-road, London, E.

HUXTER, THREE BROTHERS, Acrobatic Speciality Artistes. Next, P., Belfast. Perm., 10, Middle-st., Worcester.

HYAM, GEORGE, and NELLIE ROSE, 13th Week Panto., Theatre Royal, West Bromwich; Mon., O. H., Kidderminster.

IRIS, MISS LILY, Just finished 12 weeks' panto. as Robin Hood, T. R., Birmingham. Letters, "The Era" Office.

JACK, HAPPY, the Lancashire Collier. Original and Copyright Song and Sketch.

JESSON, SAM, Comedian. Required, Monday next, 6 or 12 nights. Wire, Howarth-street, Bradford, Manchester.

JONES, THEODORE, Jack, "Jack Sheppard." Sketch, by Albert Voyce, Esq. Communications, 23, Barmeston-road, Catford.

JUAN and McQUE, Comedians, People's Palace, Bristol. Monday, Palace Theatre, Plymouth.

JUDGE, SISTERS, With Their Marvellous Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. March 27, Surrey. The Acme of Training.

KATOS, THE, Komical Kidgets, Empire, Swansea.

KEENE, BILLY, and JESSIE ADAMS, Comedy Duettists, &c. Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

KEITH and MERSON Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

KEITHS, THE ORIGINAL MUSICAL, Thirtieth Consecutive Week of Provincial Tour. P.A., 38, Sportsbank-street, Catford, S.E.

KENDAL, BEATTIE, Dashing Character Vocalist. The Latest Manchester Success.

KESSLER, MABEL, Soprano, Cornet, Horn and Bugle Soloist. Dis., Monday, 27th. 11, Brougham-terrace, Liverpool.

KING and DELANE (GEO. and TOM), Vocal Comedy Act, "At the Club." Big Success Oldham. Monday, Hipp., Salford.

KIRK and EVERSLEIGH, Comedy Duologue Artistes. Vacant April 17. Address, Royal Court Theatre, London.

KISBEY, March 27, Opera House, York. My act, "The Call Boy," protected and registered.

KLOET, MDLLE., The Original "Artist's Model." An artistic attraction. Monday, Alhambra, Hull.

KLOOF and RAMSAY, Better Than Ever, Original Musical Novelties, Comedy, Vocalism. March 27, 7th Return, E., Portsmouth.

KNICK-KNACKS, THE. This, Empire, Edinburgh. March 27, Empire, Glasgow.

KNIGHT, STAR, the Original Man in Red, in his Bewildering Transformation Act, will Shortly Open in Town. Burrows Smith.

KORRIES, In New Act. Fringe Nets and Sweet Breads. Opera House, York.

KYASYAS, THE, Classical Athletic Novelty. Perm. Add., 233, Katherine-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

KYDD and KYDD, Comedians and Dancers, Vacant April 3. Also Alfresco Season. Three Seasons Douglas. Address, Empire, Hull.

KYOTO, the Original One; also May GERALDINE. Success P., Dundee. Mon., P., Aberdeen. See advt., back page.

LAKE, LEW, "Bloomsbury Burglars." Pavilion, Leicester.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE, WILL SERGEANT, The Palace, Aberdeen.

LAND, FRED, Comedian. Monday next, Hippo., Wakefield. Com., Pacey and Reeves.

LANG, GENTLE BROTHERS. March 27, Theatre Royal, Warrington. Lithographs by David Allen and Sons.

LANTON and LANE, Naval Experts. Manœuvring Macnaghten (London) Circuit. Tom Claxton.

LAROLA and ROSE CABANI, Alhambra, Brighton. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

LASSAH, LILLIE, This week, Hippodrome, Maidstone. Next week, Hippodrome, Coventry.

LAURELS, THE THREE, on the Ping-Pong Table. Pavilion and Metropolitan. Agents, Papa Brown, Pacey and Reeves.

LAVELLE BROS., Quaint Comedy Acrobats. March 27, Tivoli, Leeds.

LEA and LOVELL, American Song Illustrators. March 27, T. R., Warrington. 15, Albert-square, Clapham-rd., S.W.

LEARTO and Clever Dog Babs, Original Comedy Musicians. Next week, Transfield's Hippodrome, Dartford.

LEE, THE Original THREE SISTERS, Acrobats. Monday, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Liberty April 3. Wire Quick.

LEECH, ERNIE, Singing Ventriloquist. Phenomenal Success This Week, Empire, York. Booked by Verno. Liberty April 3, 10, 17.

LE FRE, ALBERT, Empire, Theatre, Birmingham.

LEIGH, THREE SISTERS, Terrific Success. P., Aberdeen. Mon., P. Dundee. Thanks M. M. for Presents.

LE MAY, TOM. The Real Musical Clown. W. Hamilton's Excursions Co., Todmorden.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI, the Fat Girl from Leytonstone. Victoria Theatre, Pontardawe, South Wales. Also MELITA.

LESLIE, FRANK, Empire, Leicester. March 27, Ardwick Empire, Manchester.

LESLIE BROTHERS, Australia's Musical Team. Empire, Bradford.

LESLIE and PLAYER, Comedy Duettists, Finish To-night Tivoli, Manchester. Monday, Palace, Cork.

LEVEY, DEL, Vacant April 3, 10, 17. Agents, Alf. Saker and Co., 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton.

LEYBOURNE. GEORGE, General Manager, Alhambra, Sandgate. Artistes communicate, Fred Durham's Agency.

LISTON, MARIE, Male Impersonator. Free, Mon. D. Hall, Hednesford. "Jap Horner." by Permission of F. V. St. Clair.

LISTON, MR. HARRY, MISS LORD LUMLEY, &c., Royal Entertainers, Two Hours, or Concerts. St. George's Hall, W.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS, Lady Acrobats; ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer. On Tour. Grand T., Aberavon.

LLOYD, BABY, Star Artiste, Lib. May 15 on; also NELLIE VANN, Vocalist. Monday, March 27, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

LLOYD'S, FRED, Sketch Combination, "The Blind Spinster." T., Bury; Next, Empire, Hull.

LOGAN, GRACIE, Finishes To-night, Big Success Circus of Varieties, Rochdale. London Shortly.

LONNEN, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers. Chelsea Palace.

LORIMER, JACK, Great Success, Palace, Aberdeen. Exclusive Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO, Trick Cyclists. 2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LOUDOUN, CAMERON, the Celebrated Conjurer. Big New Act. Lib. April 3, 10. 91, Aitkenhead-road, Glasgow.

LUCAS, MR. and MRS. EDWARD H., in scenes from Dickens. Next, O. H., York. Agents, Fortune and Granville, or Fioni.

LUMIERE'S, MDLLE., Electrical Fairy Grotto. This week, Principal Attraction, Palace, Grimsby; next, Palace, Bath. No Vac.